PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

SIXTH SESSION OF THE FOURTH LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL UNDER THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA ACT, 1919

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PERSONNEL OF THE GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

GOVERNOR OF MADRAS.

His Excellency Lord ERSKINE, G.C.I.E. Took his seat on the 15th November 1934.

MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

1. The Hon. Rai Bahadur Sir K. VENKATA REDDI NAYUDU, *Kt.*, Law Member. Took his seat on the 25th April 1934 and is in charge of the following portfolios :—

I.—Provincial Subjects.

1. Administration of justice, including constitution, powers, maintenance and organization of courts of civil and criminal jurisdiction within the Province.
2. Provincial law reports.
3. Administrator-General and Official Trustees.
4. Elections for Indian and Provincial Legislatures.
5. Escheats.
6. Coroners.
7. Treasure-trove.
8. Non-judicial and judicial stamps.
9. Prisons and prisoners.
10. Industrial matters included under the following head :—
    Electricity, including hydro-electric schemes.
11. Forests (including Cinchona) except panchayat forests.
12. Minor ports.

II.—Central Subjects.

1. Civil law.
2. Inventions and designs.
3. Copyright.
4. Criminal law.
5. Major ports.
6. Shipping and navigation.
7. Lighthouses.
8. Port quarantine and marine hospitals.

2. The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM, Home Member. Took his seat on the 16th August 1934 and is in charge of the following portfolios :—

I.—Provincial Subjects.

1. Police, including Railway Police and C.I.D.
2. Regulation of betting and gambling.
3. Prevention of cruelty to animals.
4. Control of poisons.
5. Control of vehicles.
6. Control of dramatic performances and cinematographs.
7. Control of newspapers, books and printing presses.
8. European vagrancy.
9. Regulation of medical and other professional qualifications and standards.
10. Government Houses, Staff and equipment of His Excellency the Governor.
11. Government Presses.
12. Industrial matters included under the following heads :—
    (*a*) Factories.
    (*b*) Settlement of labour disputes.
    (*c*) Boilers.
    (*d*) Gas.
    (*e*) Smoke nuisances.
    (*f*) Welfare of labour including depressed classes.
13. Criminal tribes.
14. Stores and Stationery (required for Reserved Departments).

II.—Central Subjects.

1. Control of petroleum and explosives.
2. Central police organization.
3. Arms and ammunition.
4. Emigration and immigration.
5. Pilgrimage to the Hedjaz

3. The Hon. Sir CHARLES SOUTER, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., I.C.S., Member in charge of Revenue. Took his seat on the 3rd January 1935 :—

I.—Provincial Subjects.

1. Land Revenue administration as described under the following heads, namely :—
   - (*a*) Assessment and collection of land revenue.
   - (*b*) Maintenance of land records. Survey for revenue purposes. Records of rights.
   - (*c*) Laws regarding land tenures. Relations of landlords and tenants. Collection of rents.
   - (*d*) Court of Wards encumbered and attached estates.
   - (*e*) Land improvement and agricultural loans.
   - (*f*) Colonization and disposal of Crown lands.
   - (*g*) Management of Government estates.
   - (*h*) Panchayat forests.
2. Yeomiahs, inams and hereditary pensions.
3. Water-supplies, irrigation and canals, drainage and embankments. Water storage and water power.
4. Inland waterways including shipping and navigation thereon.
5. Economic condition including wages and prices and famine-relief.
6. Land acquisition, excepting notifications under sub-section (1) of section 4 and declarations under sub-section (1) of section 6 of the Land Acquisition Act, 1894, where the public purpose referred to in the said sub-sections appertains to a transferred subject.
7. Development of mineral resources.
8. Protection of wild birds and animals.
9. Pounds and prevention of cattle trespass.
10. Provincial Gazetteers.
11. Agency tracts.
12. Laccadives.
13. European and Anglo-Indian education.
14. Fortnightly reports and preliminary special reports to the Government of India.
15. General service questions.
16. Office procedure.
17. Secretariat.
18. Matters of a general nature not allocated elsewhere.

II.—Central Subjects.

1. Geological survey.
2. Mineral development.
3. Botanical survey.
4. Survey of India.
5. Zoological survey.
6. Meteorology.
7. Census and Statistics.
8. Territorial changes.
9. Immovable property in possession of the Governor-General in Council.
10. All-India services.
11. Public Services Commission.

4. The Hon. Mr. G. T. H. Bracken, c.s.i., c.i.e., I.C.S., Finance Member. Took his seat on the 19th March 1935 and is in charge of the following portfolios :—

I.—Provincial Subjects.

1. Provincial finance.
2. Pensions.
3. Local Fund audit.
4. Preservation and translation of ancient manuscripts.
5. Central Record Office.

II.—Central Subjects.

1. (*a*) Defence of India.
   (*b*) Naval and Military works and cantonments.
2. External relations, including naturalization and aliens and pilgrimage beyond India except to the Hedjaz.
3. Relations with States in India.
4. Political charges.
5. Communications.
6. Posts and telegraphs and telephones, including wireless installations.
7. Sources of all-India revenues.
8. Currency and coinage.
9. Public debt of India.
10. Savings banks.
11. Indian Audit Department.
12. Commerce, including Banks and Insurance.
13. Trading Companies and other Associations.
14. Opium (Central questions regarding —).
15. Central Research.
16. Ecclesiastical.
17. Archæology.
18. Regulation of ceremonial titles, orders, precedence and civil uniform.
19. Reforms.
20. Subjects not allocated elsewhere.

Ministers.

1. The Hon. Raja Sri Ravu Sir Swetachalapathi Ramakrishna Ranga Rao Bahadur, k.c.i.e., of Bobbili, Minister for Local Self-Government. Took his seat on the 5th November 1932 and is in charge of the following portfolios :—

1. Adulteration of food-stuffs and other articles.
2. Light and Feeder Railways and Tramways within municipalities.
3. Local Self-Government including village panchayats.
4. Religious and Charitable Endowments.
5. Sanitary Engineering Department.
6. Stores and Stationery for Transferred Departments.

2. The Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN, Minister for Public Works. Took his seat on the 5th November 1932 and is in charge of the following portfolios :—

1. Agriculture.
2. Civil Veterinary Department.
3. Co-operative Societies.
4. Development of Industries.
5. Fisheries.
6. Public Works (Buildings, Roads, Ferries, Ropeways, etc.).
7. Registration.
8. Weights and Measures.

3. The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR, Minister for Education and Public Health. Took his seat on the 5th November 1932 and is in charge of the following portfolios :—

1. Education (other than European and Anglo-Indian education).
2. Excise.
3. Libraries, Museums and Zoological Gardens.
5. Pilgrimages within British India.
6. *Public Health (except Sanitary Engineering Department)* and Sanitation and Vital Statistics.

PRINCIPAL OFFICERS OF THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

President.

The Hon. Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI.

Deputy President.

M.R.Ry. Diwan Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR Avargal.

Panel of Chairmen.

Mr. M. S. SRESHTA.

Khan Bahadur YAHYA ALI SAHIB Bahadur.

Mrs. A. RUKMANI LAKSHMIPATHI.

Sir WILLIAM WRIGHT, *Kt.*

Secretary to the Council.

M.R.Ry. Diwan Bahadur R. V. KRISHNA AYYAR Avargal, B.A., M.L.—On other duty as Member, Indian Legislative Assembly.

M.R.Ry. D. K. V. RAGHAVA VARMA Garu, B.A., B.L., Acting.

Assistant Secretary to the Council.

M.R.Ry. D. Dhyrianathan Avargal, B.A., B.L., Acting.

LIST OF MEMBERS OF THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

	Name of member.	Name and class of constituency.
1	Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur.	Madras City, Muhammadan Urban.
2	Ahmed Meeran Sahib Bahadur, Moulvi Hafeez Anumanthakudi Mustapha.	Ramnad *cum* Tinnevelly, Muhammadan Rural.
3	Alagannan Chettiyar, Rao Sahib A. S.	Madura, N.-M. Rural.
4	Alamelumangathayaramma, Mrs. K.	NOMINATED.
5	Annamalai Chettiyar, S. A. A.	Nattukkottai Nagarathars' Association.
6	Appadurai Pillai, Diwan Bahadur A.	Central Districts—Indian Christian.
7	Arasu, V. T.	NOMINATED.
8	Ari Gowder, H. B.	The Nilgiris, N.-M. Rural.
9	Basheer Ahmed Sayeed Sahib Bahadur.	Central Districts, Muhammadan Rural.
10	Basu Dev, C.	NOMINATED.
11	Beyabani Sahib Bahadur, S. M. K.	Ceded Districts, Muhammadan Rural.
12	Bhanoji Rao, A. V.	NOMINATED.
13	Boag, C.I.E., I.C.S., G. T. ..	NOMINATED.
14	Bracken, C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S., The Hon. Mr. G. T. H.	EX OFFICIO.
15	Dalavoi, R.	Tinnevelly *cum* Palamcottah, N-M. Urban.
16	Davis, O.B.E., J. A.	Anglo-Indian.
17	Devadasan, M.	NOMINATED.
18	Dharmalingam Pillai, Rao Sahib V. ..	NOMINATED.
19	Duraiswami Reddiyar, K. M.	South Arcot, N.-M. Rural
20	Ellappa Chettiyar, Diwan Bahadur S.	Salem, N.-M. Rural.
21	Foulkes, G. F. F.	NOMINATED.
22	Gopalaswami Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur M.	Bellary, N.-M. Rural.
23	Halasyam Ayyar, N.	Trichinopoly, N.-M. Rural.
24	Harischandrudu Nayudu, A. ..	Godavari East, N.-M. Rural.*
25	Indrayya, C.	Godavari West, N.-M. Rural.
26	Iswaran Pillai, I. C.	Tinnevelly, N.-M. Rural.
27	Jagannadha Raju, Rao Bahadur G.	Vizagapatam, N.-M. Rural.
28	Jagannatham, H. M.	NOMINATED.
29	Jayaram Nayudu, Rao Sahib C.	Chingleput, N.-M. Rural.
30	Jones, I.C.S., C. E.	NOMINATED.
31	Kesavaramamurti Nayudu, K.	Cocanada City, N.-M. Urban.

Name of member.	Name and class of constituency.
32 Khalif-ul-lah Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur P.	Madura and Trichinopoly *cum* Srirangam, Muhammadan Urban.
33 Kolanda Reddi, Rai Sahib C ..	Kistna, N.-M. Rural.
34 Koti Reddi, K.	Cuddapah, N.-M. Rural.
35 Krishnamurti, Rao Bahadur D.	NOMINATED.
36 Krishnan, C.	NOMINATED.
37 Krishnaswami Ayyar, *Kt.*, Diwan Bahadur Sir Alladi.	NOMINATED.
38 Krishnayya Choudari, P. V...	Guntur, N.-M. Rural.
39 Kumararaja of Venkatagiri (Raja Velugoti Sarvagnya Kumara Krishnayachendrula Bahadur Varu).	Nellore, N.-M. Rural.
40 Kumaraswami Reddiyar, The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. (*Minister*).	Tinnevelly, N.-M. Rural.
41 Kuppuswami Choudari, J. ..	Guntur, N.-M. Rural.
42 Langley, W. K. M.	Madras Planters.
43 Madanagopal Nayudu, R. ..	Madras City, N.-M. Urban.
44 Madhusoodhanan Thangal, P.	NOMINATED.
45 Maharaja Sri Krishna Chandra Gajapati Narayana Deo Garu, of Parlakimedi.	Ganjam, N.-M. Rural.
46 Maharaja Sri Velugoti Sir Govinda Krishna Yachendruluvaru, K.C.I.E., Panchhazari Mansubhdar, of Venkatagiri, Lieutenant-Colonel.	North Central Landholders.
47 *Mahboob Ali Baig Sahib Bahadur.*	*Northern Circars,* Muhammadan Rural.
48 Mahmud Schamnad Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur.	South Kanara, Muhammadan Rural.
49 Manikkavelu Nayakar, M. A.	North Arcot, N.-M. Rural.
50 Moidoo Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur T. M.	Malabar, Muhammadan Rural.
51 Moses, P. C.	Northern Districts, Christian.
52 Muhammad Meera Ravuttar Bahadur, K. P. V. S.	Madura *cum* Trichinopoly, Muhammadan Rural.
53 Muniswami Pillai, Rao Sahib V. I.	NOMINATED.
54 Murugappa Chettiyar, Diwan Bahadur A. M. M.	Ramnad, N.-M. Rural.
55 Muthiah Chettiyar of Chettinad, Raj Kumar M. A.	Southern India Chamber of Commerce.
56 Muthu Chettiyar, Rao Bahadur P. C.	Madura, N.-M. Rural.
57 Nachiyappa Gounder, K. A. ..	Salem, N.-M. Rural.
58 Nadimuthu Pillai, A. Pl. N. V.	Tanjore, N.-M. Rural.

	Name of member.	Name and class of constituency
59	Nanjappa Bahadur, Rao Bahadur Subadar-Major S. A.	NOMINATED.
60	Narasa Reddi, T.	Cuddapah, N.-M. Rural.
61	Narasimhaswami, Rao Sahib D. V.	Godavari East, N.-M. Rural.
62	Narayanan Nambiyar, V. P. ..	Malabar, N.-M. Rural.
63	Natesa Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur C. (*Deputy President*).	Madras City, N.-M. Urban.
64	Obi Reddi, C.	Anantapur, N.-M. Rural.
65	Palat, R. M.	West Coast Landholders.
66	Pannirselvam, The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T.	EX OFFICIO.
67	Parthasarathi Ayyangar, C. R.	Chittoor, N.-M. Rural.
68	Patnaik Mahasayo, Sriman M. G.	Ganjam, N.-M. Rural.
69	Patro, K.C.I.E., Rao Bahadur Sir A. P.	Ganjam, N.-M. Rural.
70	Pattabhiramayya, K.	Kistna, N.-M. Rural.
71	*Pattagar of Palayakottai (Rai* Bahadur Nallathambi Sarkarai Manradiyar).	*Coimbatore*, N.-M. *Rural*.
72	Peddi Raju, P.	Godavari West, N.-M. Rural.
73	Pocker Sahib Bahadur, B. ..	Malabar, Muhammadan Rural
74	Premayya, G. R.	NOMINATED.
75	Rajagopala Pillai, P. V. ..	NOMINATED.
76	Raja Sri Ravu Sir Swetachalapati Ramakrishna Ranga Rao Bahadur, K.C.I.E., of Bobbili, The Hon. (*Minister*).	Vizagapatam, N.-M. Rural.
77	Raja Sri Ramachandra Mardaraja Deo, of Kallikota and Atagadā.	Northern Landholders, I.
78	Rajan, The Hon. Mr. P. T. (*Minister*).	Madura, N.-M. Rural.
79	Ramachandra Padayachi, P. K.	South Arcot, N.-M. Rural.
80	Ramachandra Reddi, The Hon. Mr. B. (*President*).	Nellore, N.-M. Rural.
81	Ramakrishna Reddi, A. ..	Kurnool, N.-M. Rural.
82	Ramalinga Reddi, C. ..	Chittoor, N.-M. Rural.
83	Ramalingam Chettiyar, Diwan Bahadur T. A.	Coimbatore, N.-M. Rural.
84	Ramamurti, Rao Sahib Pandit Ganala.	NOMINATED.
85	Raman Menon, K. P. ..	Malabar, N.-M. Rural.
86	Ramaswami Ayyar, T. S. ..	Madras University.

Name of member.	Name and class of constituency.
87 Ramaswami Mudaliyar, V. M.	North Arcot, N.-M. Rural.
88 Rameswara Rao, G.	Anantapur, N.-M. Rural.
89 Ranganatham, N.	NOMINATED.
90 Ranganatha Mudaliyar, A. ..	Bellary, N.-M. Rural.
91 Ranganatha Mudaliyar, G. ..	Tanjore, N.-M. Rural.
92 Rangaswami Reddi, M. B. ..	North Arcot, N.-M. Rural.
93 Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur C. S.	Coimbatore, N.-M. Rural.
94 Ratnavelu Thevar, P. ..	Trichinopoly *cum* Srirangam, N.-M. Urban.
95 Reid, D. M.	European, Madras Presidency.
96 Rukmani Lakshmipathi, Mrs. A.	Madras City, N.-M. Urban.
97 Russell, I.C.S., T. B.	NOMINATED.
98 Sahajanandam, Swami A. S.	NOMINATED.
99 Santhana Gounder, I. ..	Tanjore and Trichinopoly *cum* Madura (Christian).
100 Scott Brown, I.C.S., W. ..	NOMINATED.
101 Sesha Reddi, Rao Bahadur B. P.	Kurnool, N.-M. Rural.
102 Shetty, A. B.	South Kanara, N.-M. Rural.
103 Simhachalam Pantulu, Gade.	Guntur, N.-M. Rural.
104 Siva Raj, Rao Sahib N. ..	NOMINATED.
105 Sivasubrahmanya Ayyar, K. S.	Tanjore, N.-M. Rural.
106 Smith, J. M.	Madras Trades Association.
107 Soundara Pandian, W. P. A.	NOMINATED.
108 Souter, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., I.C.S., The Hon. Sir Charles.	EX OFFICIO.
109 Sreshta, M. S.	West Coast, Christian.
110 Srinivasa Ayyangar, T. C. ..	Ramnad, N.-M. Rural.
111 Srinivasan, Diwan Bahadur R.	NOMINATED.
112 Sriramulu, G.	NOMINATED.
113 Stanes, F. J.	Madras Chamber of Commerce.
114 Subbarayan, Dr. P. (The Zamindar of Kumaramangalam).	South Central Landholders.
115 Subrahmanya Bhatt, U. C. ..	South Kanara, N.-M. Rural.
116 Sundara Rao Nayudu, T. ..	Madras City, N.-M. Urban.
117 Syed Tajuddin Sahib Bahadur, Khan Sahib.	Tanjore, Muhammadan.
118 Thomas, Daniel	Ramnad *cum* Tinnevelly, Christian.
119 Uzielli, C.I.E., I.C.S., H. R. ..	NOMINATED.
120 Vasudeva Pillai, V. G. ..	NOMINATED.
121 Vedachala Mudaliyar, Rao Sahib M.	Chingleput, N.-M. Rural.
122 Venkatarama Ayyar, K. R. ..	Madura City, N.-M. Urban.
123 Venkata Reddi Nayudu, *Kt.*, The Hon. Rai Bahadur Sir Kurma.	EX OFFICIO.

Name of member.	Name and class of constituency.
124 Venugopal Nayudu, Rao Bahadur R. K.	South Arcot, N.-M. Rural.
125 Wright, *Kt.*, Sir William ..	Madras Chamber of Commerce.
126 Yahya Ali Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur.	East Coast, Muhammadan Rural.
127 Yakub Hasan Sahib Bahadur.	North Arcot *cum* Chingleput, N.-M. Rural.
128 The Zamindar of Bodinayakkanur (Kamaraja Pandia Nayakar, T. V. K.).	Southern Landholders.
129 The Zamindar of Chemudu (Sri Vyricherla Narayana Gajapati Raju).	Vizagapatam City, N.-M. Urban.
130 The Zamindar of Kirlampudi (Sri Raja Ravu Ramakrishna Ranga Rao).	NOMINATED.
131 The Zamindar of Minampalli (K. C. M. Venkatachala Reddiyar).	Trichinopoly, N.-M. Rural.
132 The Zamindar of Mirzapuram (Mirzapuram Raja alias Venkataramayya Appa Rao).	Northern Landholders, II.

Special Members.

133 Erlam Smith	Nominated for the consideration of the Madras Public Libraries Bill.
134 Krishnaswami Ayyar, Rao Bahadur K. V.	Nominated for the consideration of the Madras Public Libraries Bill.
135 Javad Hussain Khan Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur.	Nominated for the consideration of the Madras City Municipal Act (Amendment) Bill.
136 Subbiah Nayudu, Rao Bahadur R.	Nominated for the consideration of the Hindu Maths Bill.

THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF THE GOVERNOR OF MADRAS.

OFFICIAL REPORT.

Sixth Session of the Fourth Legislative Council, under the Government of India Act, 1919.

Wednesday, the 11th March 1936.

The House met at eleven of the clock, Mr. President (the Hon. Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI) in the Chair.

PRESENT :

Reddi Nayudu, *Kt.*, The Hon. Rai Bahadur Sir Kurma Venkata.
Pannirselvam, The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T.
Souter, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., I.C.S., The Hon. Sir Charles.
Bracken, C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S., The Hon. Mr. G. T. H.
Raja of Bobbili, K.C.I.E., The Hon. the.
Rajan, The Hon. Mr. P. T.
Kumaraswami Reddiyar, The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S.
Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur.
Ahmed Meeran Sahib Bahadur, A. M.
Alagannan Chettiyar, Rao Sahib A. S.
Alamelumangathayaramma, Mrs. K.
Annamalai Chettiyar, Mr. S. A. A.
Appadurai Pillai, Diwan Bahadur A.
Arasu, Mr. V. T.
Basheer Ahmed Sayeed Sahib Bahadur.
Basu Dev, Mr. C.
Beyabani Sahib Bahadur, S. M. K.
Bhanoji Rao, Sri A. V.
Boag, C.I.E., I.C.S., Mr. G. T.
Dalavoi, Mr. R.
Davis, Mr. J. A.
Devadasan, Mr. M.
Dharmalingam Pillai, Rao Sahib V.
Gopalaswami Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur M.
Harischandrudu Nayudu, Mr. A.
Indrayya, Mr. C.
Iswaran Pillai, Mr. I. C.
Jagannatham, Mr. H. M.
Jayaram Nayudu, Rao Sahib C.
Jones, I.C.S., Mr. C. E.
Kesavaramamurti Nayudu, Mr. K.
Kolanda Reddi, Rai Sahib C.
Koti Reddi, Mr. K.
Krishnayya Choudari, Mr. P. V.
Krishnamurti, Rao Bahadur D.
Kuppuswami Choudari, Mr. J.
Madanagopal Nayudu, Mr. R.
Mahboob Ali Baig Sahib Bahadur.
Manikkavelu Nayakar, Mr. M. A.
Moidoo Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur T. M.
Moses, Mr. P. C.
Muhammad Meera Ravuttar, Mr. K. P. V. S.
Muniswami Pillai, Rao Sahib V. I.
Muthiah Chettiyar of Chettinad, Raj Kumar M. A.
Nanjappa Bahadur, Rao Bahadur Subadar-Major S. A.
Narasa Reddi, Mr. T.
Narayanan Nambiyar, Mr. V. P.
Natesa Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur C.
Palat, Mr. R. M.
Parthasarathi Ayyangar, Mr. C. R.
Patnaik Mahasayo, Sriman M. G.
Pocker Sahib Bahadur, Mr. B.
Premayya, Mr. G. R.
Rajagopala Pillai, Mr. P. V.
Ramachandra Padayachi, Mr. P. K.
Ramakrishna Reddi, Mr. A.
Ramalingam Chettiyar, Diwan Bahadur T. A.
Ramalinga Reddi, Mr. C.
Ramamurti, Rao Sahib Pandit Ganala.
Raman Menon, Mr. K. P.
Ramaswami Ayyar, Mr. T. S.
Ramaswami Mudaliyar, Mr. V. M.
Rameswara Rao, Mr. G.
Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. A.
Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. G.
Ranganatham, Mr. N.
Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur C. S.
Reid, Mr. D. M.

PRESENT—*cont.*

Rukmani Lakshmipathi, Mrs. A.
Russell, I.C.S., Mr. T. B.
Santhana Gounder, Mr. I.
Schamnad Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur Mahmud.
Scott Brown, I.C.S., Mr. W.
Shetty, Mr. A. B.
Siva Raj, Rao Sahib N.
Smith, Mr. J. M.
Soundara Pandian, Mr. W. P. A.
Sreshta, Mr. M. S.
Srinivasan, Diwan Bahadur R.
Sriramulu, Mr. G.
Subbarayan, Dr. P.
Subrahmanya Bhatt, Mr. U. C.
Sundara Rao Nayudu, Mr. T.
Syed Tajuddin Sahib Bahadur, Khan Sahib.
Thangal, Mr. P. M.
Thomas, Mr. Daniel.
Uzielli, C.I.E., I.C.S., Mr. H. R.
Vasudeva Pillai, Mr. V. G.
Vedachala Mudaliyar, Rao Sahib M.
Venkatarama Ayyar, Mr. K. R.
Venugopal Nayudu, Rao Bahadur R. K.
Wright, *Kt.*, Sir William.
Yahya Ali Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur.
Yakub Hasan Sahib Bahadur.
Zamindar of Bodinayakkanur, The.
Zamindar of Kirlampudi, The.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS

Administration of Justice

Selection of Muslims for appointment as District Munsifs.

* 881 *Q.*—Khan Bahadur MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB Bahadur: Will the Hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) the total number of candidates selected for District Munsifs' posts during the last three recruitments; and

(*b*) how many of them were Muslims?

A.—(*a*) Fifty-four.

(*b*) Three.

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—"May I know from the Hon. the Law Member whether there is any proposal to appoint a Muslim as District Judge?"

The Hon. Sir K. V. REDDI NAYUDU:—"It does not arise out of this question."

Filling a vacancy in the Bench Court, Negapatam.

* 882 *Q.*—A. M. AHMED MEERAN SAHIB Bahadur: Will the Hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) for what reasons was a vacancy caused in 1935 in the Bench Court, Negapatam, filled up with a Brahman when that vacancy was held by a Muslim for the last eleven years;

(*b*) what was the report of the Subdivisional Magistrate who interviewed two Muslim gentlemen in connexion with the filling up of that vacancy;

(*c*) whether it is a fact that the District Magistrate insisted on appointing a Brahman in that vacancy; if so, whether the District Magistrate's report on the subject will be placed on the table of the House; and

(*d*) whether the appointment of Mr. Nagaraja Ayyar in that vacancy is based on the recommendation of the District Magistrate?

A.—(*a*) & (*d*) The principle generally adopted in appointing an honorary magistrate is to select for the office a person of education and social standing. Selection is not made on communal grounds, though Government keep in view the necessity for the proper representation of the several communities so as to secure the confidence of the people in the administration of criminal justice. The appointment was made on the recommendation of the District Magistrate who considered the candidate suitable for the vacancy.

(*b*) The Government have no information.

(*c*) The District Magistrate recommended to Government the name of a Brahman in the vacancy. The report cannot be published.

Depressed Classes

Statement showing the number of boarders in hostels maintained for the benefit of the depressed classes.

* 883 *Q.*—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the Hon. the Home Member be pleased to lay on the table of the House a statement showing the number of boarders in hostels maintained by Government and aided agencies for the depressed classes together with the cost of maintenance during each of the last three years?

A.—A statement [a] compiled from the Administration Reports on the working of the Labour department is laid on the table.

Minimum rate of boarding grants for maintaining pupils of the depressed classes.

* 884 *Q.*—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the Hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether Government have at any time considered the desirability of fixing the rates of boarding grants for pupils of depressed classes on the basis of minimum expenditure required to maintain boys in good health including the provision of clothes, books, etc.; and

(*b*) whether the Director of Nutrition Research Institute, Coonoor, has at any time been consulted in regard to the minimum cost of food required for children of different ages?

A.—(*a*) The boarding grants are ordinarily intended to meet charges of boarding only.

(*b*) No enquiry has been made by Government.

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[a] Printed as Appendix I on page 83 infra.

[11th March 1936

Land Revenue Administration

Imposition of additional tax in the Tanjore district pursuant to G.O. No. 1238, Revenue, dated the 14th July 1933.

* 885 *Q.*—Mr. G. Ranganatha Mudaliyar: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) the villages in the Tanjore district, talukwar, where additional taxation has been levied on account of G.O. No. 1238, Revenue, dated 14th July 1933, which raised the assessment on single crop wet lands by a reclassification of irrigation sources;

(*b*) the irrigation sources that have been so reclassified;

(*c*) the villages where this additional taxation has been cancelled or suspended—

(i) on the representations made by the ryots concerned;

(ii) by the Government themselves of their own accord;

(*d*) in cases where this additional taxation has been cancelled or suspended whether the Government were aware, before levying this additional taxation, that there was no justification for the same; and

(*e*) if they were so aware, what the reason was for levying additional taxation in such cases?

A.—(*a*) The Government have no information.

(*b*) & (*c*) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the notifications appended to G.O. No. 1238, Revenue, dated 14th July 1933 (made available for the press) and to the subsequent modifications to that notification issued from time to time and published in the *Tanjore District Gazette*. The Government have no other information.

In some cases the modifications were made as a result of representations made by the ryots and in others as a result of the reports made by the local officers.

(*d*) No.

(*e*) Does not arise.

Proposal to keep in abeyance the Government Orders levying additional tax in the Tanjore district.

* 886 *Q.*—Mr. G. Ranganatha Mudaliyar: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state talukwar in the Tanjore district—

(*a*) the amounts of additional taxation levied and collected at the last kist collection season on account of the enforcement of each of the G.Os. No. 1853, Revenue, dated 5th September 1932, No. 474, Revenue, dated 15th March 1933 and No. 1238, Revenue, dated 14th July 1933, and what percentage the additional taxation bore to the originally existing taxation;

(*b*) what the final order passed, if any, is on the representation made by the deputation that waited upon His Excellency the Governor at Ootacamund that the additional taxation levied by these Government Orders should be cancelled;

11th March 1936]

(c) if no final orders have been passed, what the reason is for the delay; and

(d) whether the hon. Member will consider the advisability of keeping the Government Orders under abeyance during this kist collection season until final orders are passed on the representations made by the deputationists to His Excellency the Governor?

A.—(a) The Government have no information.

(b) & (c) The Government have been awaiting a report from the Board of Revenue on the subject. The report has just been received and is under consideration.

(d) In G.Os. No. 535, Revenue, dated 15th March 1934, and No. 1569, Revenue, dated 9th July 1935 (which have been placed at the disposal of the press), the Government have sanctioned the levy of concessional rates of water-cess and second-crop charge for the current fasli. To that extent, G.Os. No. 1853, Revenue, dated 5th September 1932, and No. 474, Revenue, dated 15th March 1933, have been held in abeyance. The Government do not consider that any further action is called for at present.

Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI:—"May I know from the Hon. the Revenue Member when they expect to receive the report from the Board of Revenue for giving remissions to the various districts? It is already the beginning of March?"

The Hon. Sir CHARLES SOUTER:—"If the hon. Member would read the printed question, he would find that it relates to Tanjore district."

Reforms

Preparation of Electoral rolls for the Reformed Legislatures.

* 887 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the Hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether orders have been passed issuing instructions with regard to the preparation of electoral rolls for the elections to the new Provincial Legislative Assembly and Provincial Legislative Council;

(b) if so, whether a copy of it will be placed on the table;

(c) whether it is a fact that the village officers have been so far directed to prepare electoral rolls for the new Provincial Legislative Assembly and Provincial Legislative Council on more than one occasion;

(d) if so, on how many occasions they have been asked to prepare such electoral lists and for what purposes;

(e) when such electoral lists for use in elections under the new Reforms are to be prepared; and

(f) whether orders have been issued in the matter and whether a copy of it will be placed on the table?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) Such preliminary instructions as it is possible to give in the matter, in advance of the Electoral Orders in Council, have been issued. The Government do not consider that any useful purpose will be served by placing a copy of these preliminary instructions on the table.

(*c*) & (*d*) Provisional lists were prepared last year to provide the necessary statistical data for the use of the Provincial and Indian Delimitation Committees. Since the beginning of this year, a start has been made with the preparation of the preliminary rolls for certain constituencies of the Legislative Assembly.

(*e*) & (*f*) It is not possible to give definite information on the point till after the Electoral Orders in Council have issued.

Local Self-Government

Personal pay to teachers employed in the secondary schools under the district boards.

* 888 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether orders have been passed in the matter of giving personal pay to the teachers employed in the secondary schools under the district boards;

(*b*) if so, whether a copy of the order passed in the matter in respect of Salem District Board will be placed on the table; and

(*c*) if no orders have been passed yet, what the reasons for the delay are?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) A copy of G.O. No. 4531, L. & M., dated 4th November 1935, is placed on the table.[a]

(*c*) Does not arise.

Personal pay to teachers employed in the elementary schools under the district boards.

* 889 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether orders have been passed in the matter of granting personal pay to the teachers employed in the elementary schools under the various district boards;

(*b*) with regard to how many district boards orders have so far been passed and what their names are;

(*c*) whether a copy of the order passed in respect of Salem District Board in this behalf will be placed on the table; and

(*d*) if no orders have been passed yet, what the reasons are for the delay?

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[a] *Printed as Appendix II on page 84 infra.*

11th March 1936]

A.—(*a*) General orders on the subject were issued in G.O. No. 749, L. & M., dated 25th February 1935, a copy of which was placed on the table in answer to question No. 897 on 15th March 1935.

(*b*) Does not arise.

(*c*) A copy of G.O. No. 697, L. & M., dated 20th February 1936, in which orders were issued on certain specific cases referred to by the district board is placed on the table.[a]

(*d*) Does not arise.

Resolution of the North Arcot District Board proposing the award of personal pay to Elementary School teachers affected by the revised scale of pay.

* 890 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether representations have been received from some of the teachers of elementary schools under North Arcot District Board requesting to allow the difference between their actual pay as it stood on 31st March 1935 and the pay fixed for them under the new scales as personal pay;

(*b*) if so, from how many teachers such representations have been received and what orders have been passed thereon;

(*c*) whether it is a fact that the North Arcot District Board in their resolution No. 5, dated 27th April 1935, decided to treat such a difference in pay as personal allowance, and addressed the Government for sanction, and if so, when;

(*d*) whether orders have been passed thereon and if so, when; and

(*e*) whether a copy of the resolution and the covering letter of the president, district board, as well as a copy of the order passed in the matter will be placed on the table?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Several petitions have been received. No useful purpose is likely to be served by giving the exact number. No orders have been passed yet.

(*c*), (*d*) & (*e*) Attention is invited to the answer to clause (*a*) of question No. 772 answered on 25th February 1936.

Co-operation

Activities of the Provincial Weavers' Co-operative Society.

* 891 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) what tangible work the Provincial Weavers' Co-operative Society was able to do so far in each district;

(*b*) whether they have been made aware of the acute distressed condition of the weavers in Salem district and, if so, what special attention has been paid to their causes;

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[a] Printed as Appendix III on pages 84–85 infra.

(*c*) how many branch societies have so far been started in each of the districts;

(*d*) when and in which of the places such societies have been started and what work each of such societies has turned out;

(*e*) whether any special officer or officers have been appointed to organize and work these institutions successfully; and

(*f*) what the amount allotted for these activities for this year and the coming year is and in what way it is, or is proposed to be, spent?

A.—(*a*) The hon. Member is referred to the answer given to clause (*a*) of his question No. 598. Further information is furnished below:—

The society has allotted shares to the extent of Rs. 19,250. The Presidency has been divided into seven circles and a Supervisor of Production Societies has been appointed for each circle. The Board of Directors have sanctioned subsidies to twenty-five existing societies ranging from Rs. 10 to Rs. 45 on the recommendation of Deputy Registrars of Co-operative Societies and Supervisors. The Board has also decided that new societies should be formed at ten places before 31st March 1936. The Executive Committee of the Society has selected the mills from which yarn may be supplied to the societies, the necessary guarantee to the mills having been given by the Provincial Society. Societies are being supplied with mill yarn. Efforts are being made to organize two new societies for the production of Madras handkerchiefs and lungees. The society arranged an exhibition of the goods of the rural societies at the Park Fair in December 1935 to popularize the goods as well as to advertise the starting of the Provincial Society itself. Goods to the extent of Rs. 900 were sold. A cloth designer has been advertised for to prepare proper patterns which are likely to be popular in the market. The Provincial Society is proposing to start calendering and finishing centres in at least two places in the Presidency in the course of the present financial year.

(*b*) The Marketing Officer of the Provincial Society visited Salem and had a discussion with the officers of the Salem Weavers' Society and the merchants. The present distressed condition of the weavers in the Salem district is, it is stated, due mainly to the influx of cheap Japanese grey cloth and, to a certain extent, to seasonal conditions. The Marketing Officer selected samples of mill cloth sold in Madras and placed them before the Salem Weavers'

Society and some merchants with a view to the manufacture of similar cloths on handlooms. A sample saree produced by the Salem Weavers' Society has since been received and the market is being tested with it.

(c) & (d) Twelve societies have been registered as Production Societies and 19 affiliated. A list [a] of them is appended. It is not possible to detail the work done by them in answer to a question.

(e) Seven Supervisors of Production Societies have been appointed by the society for the purpose. No Special Officer has been appointed by Government.

(f) The amount allotted for the current year is Rs. 59,500. The Government of India have not yet allotted the grant for 1936–37. The amounts will be spent mainly in accordance with the scheme sanctioned in G.O. No. 368, Development, dated 8th March 1935, a copy of which has been placed in the Legislative Council Library subject to slight modifications.

Medical Administration

Payment of tuition fees of the Madras Medical College into the Imperial Bank of India.

* 892 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the students of the Madras Medical College are required to pay their term fees into the Imperial Bank and produce the receipt therefor instead of receiving the fees direct in the College office;

(b) what the method adopted in this matter is in other Government Colleges at Madras and also in the mufassal; and

(c) what difficulty is there in accepting the payment at the college office instead of putting the students to the necessity of waiting at the Imperial Bank for this simple purpose?

A.—(a) & (b) The students in the Madras Medical College and in the Law College are required to pay their fees in the Reserve Bank. In the Vizagapatam Medical College, the students are required to pay their fees into the Government treasury at Vizagapatam. In other Government Colleges, the fees are received from the students in the college itself.

(c) If the fees are received in cash at the college offices, it will entail heavy work in the college office and a demand for security deposits from the clerks who receive the fees in cash.

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[a] Printed as Appendix IV on pages 85–86 infra.

[*Note.*—**An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.**]

II.—ACTS ASSENTED TO BY HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR.

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—" I have to announce that the under-mentioned Acts received the assent of His Excellency the Governor on the dates mentioned against each:—

(1) The Madras Public Service Commission Act, 1936—26th February 1936.

(2) The Madras Commercial Crops Markets (Amendment) Act, 1936—28th February 1936.

(3) The Madras Debt Conciliation Act, 1936—29th February 1936.

(4) The Madras Estates Land (Amendment) Act, 1936—4th March 1936."

III.—A BILL TO AMEND THE MADRAS BORSTAL SCHOOLS ACT, 1925, FOR CERTAIN PURPOSES (BILL No. 7 OF 1936).

* The Hon. Sir K. V. REDDI NAYUDU:—" I beg to introduce the Bill [a] to amend the Madras Borstal Schools Act, 1925, for certain purposes (Bill No. 7 of 1936) and move—

'*That the Bill be referred to a Select Committee consisting of the following Members:—*

(1) *Dr. P. Subbarayan.*
(2) *Mr. T. C. Srinivasa Ayyangar.*
(3) ,, *C. R. Reddi.*
(4) *Diwan Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar.*
(5) *Mr. K. P. Raman Menon.*
(6) ,, *Daniel Thomas.*
(7) ,, *D. M. Reid.*
(8) ,, *G. T. Boag.*
(9) ,, *J. A. Davis.*
(10) ,, *C. Basu Dev.*
(11) *Raj Kumar M. A. Muthiah Chettiyar of Chettinad.*
(12) *Rao Sahib N. Siva Raj.*
(13) *Mr. V. T. Arasu.*
(14) *B. Pocker Sahib Bahadur.*
(15) *Mr. T. S. Ramaswami Ayyar.*
(16) *Khan Bahadur T. M. Moidoo Sahib Bahadur.*
(17) *Mr. G. Simhachalam Pantulu.*
(18) *The Mover (Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu).*'

Hon. Members will notice that under the Act of 1926 provision is made under section 4 which it may be necessary to read to hon. Members so that they may understand the implications of the present Bill—enabling the Local Government to make rules: Section 4 of that Act reads as follows:—

'(1) The Local Government may make rules for the purpose of carrying into effect the provisions of this Act.

(2) In particular and without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing power, such rules may be made with regard to—

(*a*) the control and management of borstal schools established under this Act;

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[a] Published in the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 18th February 1936.

(b) the appointment, powers and duties of officials in such schools;
(c) the constitution, powers and duties of Visiting Committees;
(d) the classification, treatment, maintenance, education, industrial training and control of the inmates;
(e) the temporary detention of adolescent offenders until arrangements can be made for sending them to Borstal Schools;

(3) All rules made under this Act, except those referred to in the sub-section following shall be published in the local official gazette and on such publication shall have effect as if enacted in this Act.

(4) Rules made under sub-section (2), clauses (a), (c) and (d) of this section shall not come into force until approved by a resolution of the Legislative Council with or without modification or amendment; and on such approval the rules as approved shall be published in the local official gazette and on such publication shall have effect as if enacted in this Act.'

" Hon. Members will thus see that while generally power is given to the Government to frame rules in all these matters under this Act, all the rules made under this Act, except those referred to in sub-section (4) shall be published in the local official gazette and on such publication they shall have effect as if enacted under this Act; whereas in the case of those matters referred to in sub-clauses (a), (c) and (d) of sub-section (2) of section 4, the rules framed with regard to such matters should be placed before the Legislative Council and the House by a resolution will have to accept them with or without amendment. Now sub-clause (a) refers to 'the control and management of Borstal Schools established under this Act'; sub-clause (c) refers to 'the constitution, powers, and duties of Visiting Committees'; and sub-clause (d) refers to 'the classification, treatment, maintenance, education, industrial training and control of the inmates.' Now in these three matters it is now proposed that, instead of putting them in the form of rules and afterwards obtaining the sanction of the Legislative Council, these may form substantive provisions of the Act. So that, it will be seen that the power of the Legislative Council is not in any way interfered with. The Council will have to go through these provisions and see what is right and what will have to be omitted and so I propose that the Bill may be referred to a Select Committee consisting of members, whose names I have already referred to above, so that it may go into these matters and assist the Government in getting this Bill passed into law."

The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM:—" I second it."

The motion was put and carried.

IV.—CONSIDERATION OF THE REPORT OF THE INDIAN DELIMITATION COMMITTEE.

* The Hon. Mr. G. T. H. BRACKEN:—" I beg to move the resolution that stands in my name—

> '*That the Report of the Indian Delimitation Committee be taken into consideration.*'

First of all, I must express my regret that an insufficient number of copies of the report has been received for distribution to hon. Members. We did our best in the matter, but unfortunately for us only

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a limited number of copies was received in time. However, the newspapers have published pretty fully the gist of the report and I think all hon. Members are aware of the main points. I have already had circulated printed memorandum [a] which shows in two parallel columns the single member constituency scheme and the multi-member constituency scheme which I hope will be of some use to the House.

" Now the main points of difference between the Hammond Committee Report and the recommendations of the Provincial Delimitation Committee and the proposals of this Government are briefly as follows :—

" Firstly, the Hammond Committee have against the recommendations of the Provincial Committee and this Government recommended mainly multi-member constituencies as against single-member constituencies. I will return to this important matter later in my speech. Secondly, the Hammond Committee have recommended the cumulative system of voting instead of the single non-transferable vote which was recommended by this Government. The Hammond Committee have laid considerable stress on the Poona Pact and taken the view that the single non-transferable vote would not be in accordance with the
11-15 a.m. spirit of the Poona Pact. On this matter the Provincial Delimitation Committee had not very strong views. They were first slightly inclined to the cumulative system of voting, but finally they agreed with the Government that the single non-transferable vote system should be tried, but they held no very strong views on the subject. Now this Government have good reason to suppose that His Majesty's Government will recommend to Parliament that the cumulative system of voting should be adopted. It may simplify the course of the debate if hon. Members know what are the probable intentions of His Majesty's Government.

" Then the next point is labour representation. This is a very difficult question and both the Provincial Delimitation Committee and the Government and the Hammond Committee found great difficulty in evolving any satisfactory constituencies. The Hammond Committee finally recommended two trade union constituencies against the recommendation of this Government. This Government hold that trade unions' development is not sufficiently advanced in this Presidency to enable satisfactory constituencies to be formed. However this is a very difficult matter and not a very vital issue.

" The next point is Indian Commerce. On this there was a great deal of discussion and considerable difference of opinion. But it is only a matter of one seat and not a matter perhaps of very great importance.

" Then we come to the University representation. Hon. Members are probably aware that most Local Governments recommended election by the registered graduates. The Madras Government and, I think, the Central Provinces Government were alone in recommending election by the Senate. This again is a matter of one seat and Government do not attach any very great importance to this particular matter.

[a] Printed as Appendix V on pages 87–90 infra.

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"The vital point of difference is the question of single-member constituencies as against multi-member constituencies. In the Government scheme there are thirty dual member constituencies in which there are reserved seats for scheduled castes, five other dual member constituencies which it was found impossible to split up into single-member constituencies and seventy-six single-member constituencies. The Hammond Committee have recommended eighteen three-member constituencies and twelve two-member constituencies, that is, thirty constituencies in which there will be reserved seats, another twenty-five dual member constituencies in which there will be no reserved seats and eighteen single-member constituencies. Now, this Government, I must say, were extremely surprised at this recommendation of the Hammond Committee. It is only in the case of Madras that the Hammond Committee have departed from the recommendations of the Provincial Delimitation Committee and of the Local Government. I think the reasons put forward by the Hammond Committee, if I may say so with due respect, are singularly unconvincing. And I think they have acted on wrong information in this matter. I think again that the Hammond Committee have been unduly influenced by Bombay. Superficially there are points of similarity between Bombay and Madras and the Hammond Committee seem to have taken the view that what was good enough for Bombay was good enough for Madras. But the problem in Bombay was somewhat different. In Bombay seats had to be reserved for the Mahratta community and also there are important minorities such as Jews, Parsees and Jains which we do not have in this Province. There may be very good reasons for multi-member constituencies in Bombay which do not apply to Madras. Again the Hammond Committee seem to have thought that the weight of public opinion in Madras was in favour of multi-member constituencies. I think they have come to this conclusion on quite insufficient data. The Government believe that the Hammond Committee were equally in error about the real opinion of this House. In the debate in this House it was inevitable that the critics of the Government scheme should do most of the talking. The supporters of the Government motion found very much less reason to speak than the movers of the various amendments. I think the volume of speaking is no real criterion at all. (*Mr. C. R. Reddi*: 'Nor the voting.') Members on this side of the House thought it was enough for one or two members to sum up their views in favour of the Government scheme, while many Members of the Opposition desired to speak at length on the various amendments. Fortunately it is not too late to rectify that mistake if a mistake was made. The result of this debate will be cabled to-day to the Secretary of State so that he may know what is the real opinion of this House on this really vital issue.

"Now, Sir, the arguments for and against single-member constituencies have been pretty thoroughly thrashed out in the press and in this House and I do not think I need go into them at length. The two main points on which the Government would lay stress are that multi-member constituencies so far from being likely to remove the intensity

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and bitterness of inter-caste strife are very likely to accentuate class and communal strife. When more than one seat is given to a constituency it is likely that minorities will try their chance of getting one member in if there happen to be two or three seats, whereas if there is only one seat they would probably not attempt anything on these narrow lines but would try to get some candidate on broad political issues as *against communal or caste* issues. Secondly, multi-member constituencies, in the opinion of this Government, are likely to encourage the formation of groups while single-member constituencies are more likely to result in the formation of strong political parties with a stable majority on one side or the other. And judging from history and from what has happened in Parliament in England, in the opinion of this Government it is most desirable for this province, that there should be stable majorities.

" These are the two main considerations and I do not want to detain the House with a number of detailed arguments when I know that a number of hon. Members wish to speak on this important issue. I would respectfully suggest to this House that the course of the debate should be restricted to main issues. At this eleventh hour it is most unlikely that Parliament would go into the question of individual seats and other minor details, as for example, whether one district—shall we say Cuddapah—should get one more seat by robbing some other district. I do not think any discussion on that point would be of the slightest use. Mathematical exactitude in constituencies is impossible. Some minor anomalies are inevitable. The two alternative schemes which hon. Members have before them in the printed memorandum have, I venture to think, been worked out as fairly as possible and I think there is really not much to quarrel with in them.

1·30 a.m. " In the two schemes of constituencies, the total district representation remains the same, except in one or two respects. The Vizagapatam district gets one more seat and Coimbatore, one less as against the Government scheme; Vizagapatam gets one more scheduled caste seat and East Godavari gets one less scheduled caste seat but gets in return an extra general seat. Otherwise the representation of districts in the two schemes is the same. It is for the House now to come to a conclusion as to which of these two schemes is preferable. I would say that in any voting on this matter, my Hon. Colleagues the Reserved Half and the Official Nominated Members will remain neutral, so that voting may represent the opinion of the elected and nominated Members other than Official nominated Members."

The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu:—" I second it."

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan:—" Sir, I move—

' That the consideration of the Report of the Indian Delimitation Committee be adjourned till copies of the report are made available for all Members of the House.'

" Sir, I make this motion with great hesitation especially in view of the regret expressed by the Hon. the Finance Member. I know

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that neither the Council Office nor the Government is responsible for the shortage in the number of copies that have been made available to the Members of this House. Only ninety copies were received and I understand that the Council Office sent all the copies to mufassal Members. They thought that the other copies would be received soon and that they could be distributed to the Members of the City with greater ease. Unfortunately copies have not been received so far and both the Council Office and the Government have not been able to distribute copies to us to-day; we are now considering this question without every Member of this House having received copies. It is no doubt true, as the Hon. the Finance Member stated, that the newspapers did publish a brief extract of this report. (The Hon. Mr. G. T. H. Bracken:—Full extract.) It is an extract all the same and not the full report. He thought that it should be possible for Members belonging to the City to follow the discussion and to be able to participate in it. I do not think the Hon. the Finance Member was doing us sufficient justice if he expected that a certain number of Members would be in a better position than certain others in participating in the discussion without copies of the report. I do not hold either the Council Office or the Government responsible for any drawback in this respect. But all the same, the fact remains that a certain section of the House is at a great disadvantage in view of their not being supplied with copies. I do not think the Government would be inclined to allow discussion to go on in this matter under the present circumstances. If they wish to do so, they will place a certain number of Members at a great disadvantage."

Mr. T. S. Ramaswami Ayyar:—" Sir, I desire to second the motion moved by the Mayor of Madras. My reasons are these. It is not my intention to stop the proceedings of this House on this matter. A great point was raised by the hon. Mover, namely, that some Members are at a great disadvantage, as they did not receive the Hammond Committee's report. A greater reason is this. From the Hon. the Finance Member's speech, I find that the object of the Government to-day is to take a vote on this issue. Last time when the discussion took place, no vote was taken. It was agreed that Members should give out their opinions; many Members moved amendments. If I read the position aright, I think, Sir, the general opinion expressed by many Members was, as has been stated in the report of the Committee itself . . ."

* The Hon. the President:—" I think the hon. Member is going beyond the limits of the motion that is under discussion now."

Mr. T. S. Ramaswami Ayyar:—" My point is this: if the Government is going to take a vote on the question, it should certainly provide Members with full information. I was referring to the discussion on the last occasion, merely to say that no vote was taken on that occasion. The Government propose to take vote to-day. I think it will be doing bare justice to the Opposition to give them full materials before any vote is taken. The Government cannot always say, 'heads I win, tails you lose.' That seems to be the attitude of the Government with

regard to many matters, which I regret. If the Hammond Committee had reported against the wishes of the Government, it is not right that the Government should come forward and say now that a decision will be taken to-day even without full information."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Before further discussion takes place on this motion, I wish to make a few observations. The hon. the Mover of the motion has already stated the case on behalf of the Legislative Council Office. We expected all the copies would be received in time in the Council Office. Only ninety copies were received and in order to avoid delay, almost all the copies available were sent to mufassal Members. We expected that on the following day, when copies were received, it would be possible for the Council Office to distribute them to local Members. There was no delay on the part of the Council Office."

* The Hon. Mr. G. T. H. BRACKEN:—"Sir, when an expression of opinion was made on the previous occasion that this matter might be debated in the House, I warned hon. Members that it might not be possible to receive copies in time and that only summaries might be available; the House then accepted that decision. I think it does not come very well from the mover and the seconder of the motion to cast aspersions on the Government."

Mr. C. RAMALINGA REDDI:—"I happen to be a leader of a party; I was not a consenting party to that arrangement; nor can I agree that, without supply of copies, we can have a useful debate."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"On a matter of personal explanation, Sir, I never cast any aspersion on any section. I tried my utmost to make it clear that neither the Council office nor the Government were responsible. In the circumstances I am sorry that the Hon. the Finance Member should think that I cast aspersions on the Government."

* The Hon. Mr. G. T. H. BRACKEN:—"I should have said hon. seconder of the motion."

Mr. T. S. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"On a matter of personal explanation, Sir. I made it clear that it was not my intention to cast any aspersion on anybody. I thought it was necessary that we should have full information."

* The Hon. Mr. G. T. H. BRACKEN:—"I accept the hon. Member's explanation. On this point the difficulty is this; the matter has to come up before Parliament almost at once and the Secretary of State has to make up his mind as to what His Majesty's Government should recommend to Parliament. If we adjourn the debate until copies are received, I am afraid this debate will be altogether too late and the Secretary of State might have to come to his conclusions without having before him the opinion of this House. I may state for the information of the House that the Secretary of State knows that this matter is going to be debated in this House to-day and will be awaiting the result of

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the debate. Much as I regret the inconvenience hon. Members have suffered, (I would ordinarily be only too glad to agree to the postponement;) I am afraid in this case the postponement will be out of question if this debate is to be of any use whatever. I must therefore oppose the motion."

* Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" Mr. President, when I asked for a debate, the Hon. Gentleman, Finance Member, thought the report was not going to be published in this country at all. I pointed out to the Hon. the Finance Member the very next day that the report was going to be simultaneously published both in England and in India. In these circumstances I thought it would be possible to supply hon. Members of this Council with copies of the report . . ."

* The Hon. Mr. G. T. H. BRACKEN :—" On a matter of personal explanation, Sir. After I spoke to the hon. Leader of the Opposition, I at once wired for copies."

* Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" I am not blaming the Hon. Gentleman at all. But circumstances have so conspired that it has not been possible for all hon. Members of this House to have copies of the report. As my hon. Friends behind me have pointed out, it is not possible for us to discuss the report in the absence of copies of the same. Though I am fortunate enough to have two copies, one purchased by me and the other supplied by the Government of Madras, there are other Members who have not got even one copy. In the circumstances I think it will not be possible to discuss the report.

" Another consideration I would like to point out to the Hon. Gentleman, the Finance Member, is this; if he was very keen on a vote this ought to have been taken on the proposal of the Government last time, with regard to multi-member and single-member constituencies before the Hammond Committee came to consider the suggestions of the Local Government. The Hammond Committee are a judicial body and not composed of politicians at all, but composed of an ex-Governor of a province and two eminent judges—one of our province, who is well known. He has brought to bear upon the delimitation of constituencies his impartial judgment; another is a Judge of the High Court of Lahore, who is not concerned with local conditions at all . . ."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT :—" May I point out that the motion before the House is that the consideration of the report be adjourned? When the report itself comes up for discussion, the hon. Member can give expression to these views."

* Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" For your consideration I am only making a point against the suggestion of the Hon. Gentleman, the Finance Member, that a vote should be taken on this report."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT :—" That is exactly what I am pointing out. If the question of voting has to be discussed, it can be done after this motion for adjournment is disposed of."

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* Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" I was adverting to that point for your information. Leaving that apart, I would like to point out that it is not fair to have a discussion on the report when many hon. Members of this House have not got copies of this report."

11.45 a.m. * Mr. C. RAMALINGA REDDI :—" Mr. President, I must thank my hon. Friend Mr. Bracken for telling us plainly that we have to debate this very important question with nothing better to serve us than the extracts given in the press. It is a very important question, Sir, and we cannot be fed on extracts like invalids, on a question of this kind. Sir, we want strong meat and the whole text.

" Furthermore, my hon. Friend seems to be of the opinion that at the present time, there should be a change in the procedure previously adopted. The hon. the Leader of the Opposition made it clear that if it had been only a question of ventilating the different views that could be held on these proposals, our objection to proceeding straightaway would be less strong than if my hon. Friend wanted a decisive vote on the question. That, I submit to you, Mr. President, is the relevancy of the point. We thought that, as on the previous occasions, nothing more would be required of this House than for the different sides to express their views and policies. But having failed to provide the Hammond Committee with the considered data of which the conclusions and decisions of this House would have been an important part, now they want to reverse the process altogether and sit, as it were, in judgment on the conclusions of the Committee presided over by Sir Laurie Hammond."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The present motion is that since copies of the Hammond Committee report have not reached all the Members, the consideration of this subject should be adjourned. The hon. Member will be in order if he discusses that particular aspect until Mr. Hameed Khan's motion is disposed of."

* Mr. C. RAMALINGA REDDI :—" I bow very submissively to you, Mr. President; but I thought the motion was, as most motions in this House are, merely for the adjournment of the House; and the reasons given by my friend the Lord Mayor of Madras may not be the only reasons that can be advanced in support of the adjournment; it can be supported also on other grounds. It was in that view that I was trying to support this motion for adjournment. I do hope that instead of asking us to vote blindly, my hon. Friend would agree to this adjournment; or if that is not possible, to restrict himself to the old procedure, viz., of allowing all sides to state their opinions and submitting them in long extracts to the Secretary of State for India."

* Khan Bahadur MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB Bahadur :—" I oppose his motion. Those of us, Sir, who have received the copies of the Hammond Committee Report are no better than the others; because the copies were received by us only yesterday. What we know about the report of the Hammond Committee is from the newspapers. The Members of the City also may have read it and have as much

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knowledge as we have, of the report. Apart from this, when last time this question was moved in this House, it was even suggested that there should be a discussion on the 3rd of this month itself when nobody would have received the report of the Hammond Committee, and when there was no chance even of reading it at all even in newspapers. When such is the case, there is no reason to object now to a discussion of the question on the ground that the report has not been received. Therefore, Sir, I oppose this motion."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I will put the motion to the vote of the House. The question is—

> '*That the consideration of the report of the Indian Delimitation Committee be adjourned till copies of the report are made available for all Members of the House.*' "

The motion was put and declared lost. Dr. P. Subbarayan demanded a poll, and it was taken with the following result:

Ayes.

1 Dr. P. Subbarayan.
2 Mr. K. R. Venkataraman Ayyar.
3 Diwan Bahadur T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar.
4 Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan.
5 ,, T. S. Ramaswami Ayyar.
6 ,, V. T. Arasu.
7 ,, A. B. Shetty.
8 ,, A. S. Alagannan Chettiyar.
9 Mr. A. M. Ahmed Meeran.
10 Diwan Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabapati Mudaliyar.
11 Mr. K. Koti Reddi.
12 ,, V. P. Narayanan Nambiyar.
13 ,, V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar.
14 ,, U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt.
15 ,, C. Ramalinga Reddi.
16 Mrs. A. Rukmani Lakshmipati.

Noes.

1 The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu.
2 ,, Rao Bahadur A. T. Pannirselvam.
3 ,, Sir Charles Souter.
4 ,, Mr. G. T. H. Bracken.
5 ,, Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar.
6 ,, Mr. P. T. Rajan.
7 ,, the Raja of Bobbili.
8 Diwan Bahadur C. Natesa Mudaliyar.
9 Mrs. K. Alamelumangathayaramma.
10 Mr. W. Scott Brown.
11 ,, H. R. Uzielli.
12 ,, C. E. Jones.
13 ,, G. T. Boag.
14 ,, T. B. Russell.
15 ,, T. Sundara Rao Nayudu.
16 Khan Sahib Syed Tajudin Sahib Bahadur.
17 Mr. R. M. Palat.
18 ,, I. C. Iswaran Pillai.
19 Diwan Bahadur R. Srinivasan.
20 ,, A. Appadurai Pillai.
21 Mr. G. Ranganatha Mudaliyar.
22 Khan Bahadur Yahya Ali Sahib Bahadur.
23 Mr. M. Devadasan.
24 Rao Sahib N. Siva Raj.
25 Mr. D. M. Reid.
26 The Zamindar of Kirlampudi.
27 Mr. P. C. Moses.
28 ,, P. V. Rajagopala Pillai.
29 ,, V. G. Vasudeva Pillai.
30 ,, J. M. Smith.
31 ,, N. Ranganatham.
32 ,, W. P. A. Soundara Pandiyan.
33 ,, K. Ramachandra Padayachi.
34 Sriman M. G. Patnaik Mahasayo.
35 Khan Bahadur Mahmud Schamnad Sahib Bahadur.
36 Mr. A. V. Bhanoji Rao.
37 ,, Daniel Thomas.
38 ,, G. Sriramulu.
39 ,, J. Kuppuswami Choudari.
40 ,, C. Indrayya.
41 Khan Bahadur T. M. Moidoo Sahib Bahadur.
42 Mr. C. Vedachala Mudaliyar.
43 Rao Sahib C. Jayaram Nayudu.
44 Mr. S. A. A. Annamalai Chettiyar.
45 Rao Sahib Pandit Ganala Ramamurthi.
46 Mr. A. Harischandrudu.
47 ,, K. Kesavaramamurti Nayudu.
48 ,, Sandana Goundar.
49 ,, A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar.
50 ,, C. R. Parthasarathi Ayyangar.
51 ,, G. R. Premayya.
52 ,, M. S. Sreshta.

Noes—cont.

53 Mr. J. A. Davis.
54 Rao Sahib V. I. Muniswami Pillai.
55 Mr. A. Ramakrishna Reddi.
56 ,, H. M. Jagannatham.
57 ,, T. Narasa Reddi.
58 S. M. K. Beyabani Sahib Bahadur.
59 Diwan Bahadur M. Gopalaswami Mudaliyar.
60 Rao Bahadur Subedar-Major S. A. Nanjappa Bahadur.
61 Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari.
62 ,, C. Basu Dev.
63 ,, R. Dalavoi.
64 ,, Mahaboob Ali Baig.
65 ,, V. Dharmalingam Pillai.

Neutral.

1 Mr. K. P. Raman Menon.
2 Mr. G. Rameswara Rao.

Ayes 16. *Noes* 65. *Neutral* 2.

The motion was lost.

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The motion that the report of the Indian Delimitation Committee be taken into consideration is now for discussion."

Mr. K. R. VENKATARAMA AYYAR :—" All the motions given notice of by Members may perhaps be moved first and there may be a discussion on all of them; otherwise, one would have to rise repeatedly."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT :—" If it is the desire of the House, I will first put this motion to the vote of the House, and then lay down the procedure for the discussion of the amendments."

* Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" Before you put the motion to the House, Sir, I would like to say a word. Mr. President, if you remember aright, you stopped me when I raised the point that the Hon. the Finance Member took me by surprise when he said that he wanted to take a vote on these proposals. It was really a surprise in the sense that I did not know of it before; but at the same time, I would like to point out to him that he is not quite playing the game. If he really wanted to do it, he should have taken a vote on the question of multi-member *versus* single-member constituencies at the time the House discussed the report of the Provincial Committee. Because, the Provincial Committee was composed of members from various parties and was representing different schools of thought. But I do not think it is either fair or reasonable on the part of the Government to take a vote on the report of the Central Delimitation Committee; because, as I explained before, the Central Delimitation Committee is in the nature of a judicial body, not composed of even a single politician belonging to any school of thought in this country. If hon. Members would look at the composition of this Committee, they would find that it was composed of Sir Laurie Hammond, an ex-Governor of a province, Justice Sir M. Venkatasubba Rao, a Judge of the High Court of Madras and Mr. Justice Din Muhammad who was an acting Judge of the High Court of Lahore. The composition of that body clearly

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proves that they were gentlemen eminently fitted to delimit constituencies under the new constitution, with the materials that might be placed at their disposal by the various Provincial Committees and the Provincial Governments.

" Talking on the report of the Madras Delimitation Committee, the Hon. Gentleman the Finance Member observed as follows:—

'One point with regard to the report of the Delimitation Committee is that neither the views of that Committee, nor those of the Government, nor those of this House are final. It is the Hammond Committee that will decide this matter. It is for this reason that I regret that, while all other parties and interests have been represented on the Delimitation Committee, the Congress party on the back bench opposite thought fit to boycott the Committee though they were offered one seat on the general committee and one seat on an important sub-committee.'

Mr. President, then it is that the Finance Member envisaged that it ought to be the opinion of various parties forming this Council that ought to be before the Hammond Committee and the authorities at Home, rather than the vote of the House; and I am sure, because of that, the Hon. Gentleman and other Members of the House agreed that there should be no voting on this question. As the Hon. the Finance Member himself has admitted, it was for the Hammond Committee which was a judicial body, to decide what should be the delimitation of constituencies in this province. I do not think it is either fair or reasonable on the part of the Government to try and get a vote of this legislature on the proposals of the Hammond Committee, thus sitting in judgment over a judicial body which has come to its conclusions after hearing the evidence of various people and also hearing the views of the Madras Provincial Delimitation Committee and those of the Government of Madras. I would like to go further, and I am sure hon. Members will not misunderstand me when I say this: What is the Madras Government composed of to-day? Except for the two hon. Gentlemen of the Indian Civil Service who, I admit, do not represent any party in this Council—because I know they play the game fair, as they always play the game fair—the other five Members of this Government are all Members belonging to one single party. Is the opinion of this single party to be paramount over the opinion of a body like the Hammond Committee which was a judicial body, not interested in any political party?

" Secondly, Mr. President, I would like to point out that this Council came to the end of its term in the year 1933 and has been kept alive by the mere executive fiat of His Excellency the Governor by various extensions. And the various elections and bye-elections that have been held to this Council since these extensions have been made, have clearly proved, and I am sure no gentleman will dare to contradict it, that the Party in Power do not enjoy the confidence of the electorate. To take only the recent election in Trichinopoly into consideration, the Party in Power did not even put up a candidate and the gentleman who stood to contest the seat with the Congress candidate lost his deposit, which shows that the Congress Party has a great hold on the electorate to-day

and if really public opinion is to be considered on the vote of this House, I would contend, Mr. President, not even my vote should be counted, but only the vote of these six or seven who represent the Congress in this House (hear, hear).

" Mr. President, I would also like to say, that I move definitely that '*no vote be taken after discussion of each amendment*' following the old precedent of not having taken a vote when the Report of the Provincial Delimitation Committee itself was under consideration."

The Hon. Sir. K. V. Reddi Nayudu :—" Mr. President, Sir."

* The Hon. the President :—" The Hon. the Leader of the Opposition has made a definite motion that no vote be taken after discussion of each amendment."

Mr. K. R. Venkatarama Ayyar :—" Mr. President, Sir, I second the motion of the hon. the leader of the Opposition that no vote be taken on to-day's debate."

* The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu :—" Mr. President, I am not going to speak upon the motion that has been moved, but there are one or two observations by the hon. the leader of the Opposition which I cannot leave unchallenged. In the first place, the hon. the leader of the Opposition was good enough to say, speaking of the two European Members of the Executive Council, that they play the game. But, if the insinuation is that the other two Members do not play the game, I think it is most reprehensible."

* Dr. P. Subbarayan :—" Mr. President, Sir, on a matter of personal explanation. I did not want to cast any aspersion of any kind on Hon. Members opposite not playing the game. But, what I said was that they belonged to a definite political party. If the Hon. Member thinks that I threw any aspersion on him, I regret it very much and I withdraw it."

* The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu :—" I am very glad and I am very thankful to the hon. Member for having withdrawn it, and there he played the gentleman.

" Now, Sir, as regards the other point, that we belong to a party, it is no doubt true that we belonged at one time to the Justice Party, but certainly it is wrong to say that we belong to any party at present. That we said on the very day on which we took office, and I suppose the hon. Member is aware of it. Be that as it may, may I point out one or two things. Whether we play the game or not, as the hon. Member would say, there is one thing which we have always said, that Englishmen are capable of playing the game and have played the game. We do not belong to that kind of people who, in this Council and in public places and in their requisitions to the very European officers, go and say 'you are the best men in the world,' but when they go on to the other side, I mean to the beach, say, 'these Englishmen should be driven out of this province bag and baggage.' At any rate, we do not belong to that class of people. We are honest and we say it here and outside. At least we are true to our word. We do not play false or double.

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" Sir, there is another argument to which I would refer and it is this. One argument that has been advanced against this vote being taken is that whereas at the last meeting we were only asked to speak, it was not necessary for us to have any documents or papers, but here you are going to take a vote and therefore, the book is necessary, as has been stated by one hon. Member. Well, Sir, that gives away the case of the Opposition. For the vote to be taken, it requires more consideration, more thought, documents and papers, but, for speaking as they did on the last occasion, no such consideration, no such thought and no such judgment was necessary. That clearly gives away the whole case and shows the value of the speeches made on the last occasion."

* Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" Mr. President, I only want to say that I cast no aspersions. I was surprised why the Hon. Member should have pressed that point with such vehemence which is not necessary on this occasion especially when I have withdrawn what he thought was an aspersion."

Mr. T. S. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Sir, I think, I stated that on the last occasion no vote was taken and that on this occasion, when a vote is being taken Members should be given full information. I think I am right when I say that on the last occasion we had all the papers; for instance, the reports of the Provincial Delimitation Committee and other connected papers were given. So, there is no point in saying that on the last occasion we spoke without any information. It is only on this occasion we do not have information."

* The Hon. Sir K. V. REDDI NAYUDU :—" On a matter of personal explanation, Mr. President. My hon. Friend is mistaken. That is not what I stated. I was only meeting the point of my hon. Friend opposite wherein he stated, ' now we want better consideration, better judgment and decision and for that purpose we want papers.' From that I was only drawing the inference that it only reflects on the value of the speeches made on the last occasion."

* Mr. C. RAMALINGA REDDI :—" Mr. President, I do not know why my Hon. Friend, the Law Member, imported so much heat into this discussion."

The Hon. Sir K. V. REDDI NAYUDU :—" Because of the tactics played on the other side."

*Mr. C. RAMALINGA REDDI :—" I am sitting on this side and I am not aware of any tactics excepting this, that the hon. Gentlemen constituting the Government appear to be introducing new tactics. On a former occasion, when this question was debated, they took the view, specifically borne testimony to by my Hon. Friend, Mr. Bracken, that it would be enough if the policies of the different sections were ventilated here and those policies were communicated to the Governments above. But to-day, they want to take a vote. On what? On the Hammond Committee's Report. My Hon. Friend the Law Member grew very eloquent over this and said, on the last occasion you did not want

any books, you did not want to study and you were prepared to give opinions. But you want books and all now? Even to-day, were it confined to giving opinions, instead of coming to conclusions, you could proceed with this discussion. But, when you want to force a vote, we want to study, we want to digest these volumes and then give a considered judgment. If the giving of considered judgment is wrong tactics on the part of the Opposition, it seems to me a most extraordinary position taken by the Hon. the Law Member. It is one thing to criticise even our own Delimitation Committee Report, it is one thing to criticise the recommendations of the Local Government; but when you are asked to express a definite judgment on the findings of an impartial committee constituted under Parliamentary authority and after it has issued its findings, what is there wrong or strange in our saying that we are not prepared to do it unless we have got all the documents and papers before us? Is it not in the very nature of things necessary for us to show far greater regard to a committee constituted like the Hammond Committee with its statutory authority and with its integrity of character, than to the reports of committees chiefly composed of politicians who will have their own axes to grind, not individual of course, but party? But apart from that, here we are asked to pronounce a judgment on a super-party committee, a judicial body, and yet we are told we could do it on the strength of extracts. Now, I ask my Hon. Friend, Mr. Bracken, would he consider this objection reasonable if adopted by the unfortunate Members of the Opposition. Well, he must have undergone already the sea change that he is going to experience when the new Constitution comes. I did not think he would have undergone that change so soon. My Hon. Friend said, that last time there was a large volume of speaking, but that volume of speakiug was no criterion of value. I ask my Hon. Friend, is the volume of voting going to be the final criterion, in a House not representative, and unrepresentative on the strength of the unimpeachable testimony of my Hon. Friend, tbe Raja of Bobbili and my hon. Friend, Mr. Langley. Remember what Mr. Langley said a year ago. He said that excepting the Europeans and the Congressmen, nobody sitting here could be said to possess the full confidence of the constituencies (Diwan Bahadur A. Appadurai Pillai: 'Question.') You should have questioned Mr. Langley. I am only quoting Mr. Langley. What is the good of questioning me one year after he uttered it? I hope my Hon. Friend the Raja of Bobbili will excuse me if I say that he has furnished indirect testimony. In one of the famous Press Communiqués he issued not very long ago, he pleaded that as regards the extension of this Council he had not been consulted. What is implication of that statement? If he had been consulted, he would probably not have heen in favour of the extension. If that is not the implication, then that statement has no meaning whatsoever; and if it has that meaning, by an unanswerable inference, unquestionable deduction, it proves that the representative character of this House is not beyond question. Such heing the case, what is the good of a vote here! I ask, if the volume of speaking is not the criterion, is it the volume of voting in a House time-expired,

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time-barred and from the point of view of constitutional competence, though not legal power, almost insolvent? What is the good of the credit given by this House to the views of the Government which have been rejected by the Hammond Committee? I am putting my position fairly clearly, because I do not know if my Hon. Friend the Law Member was referring to me and my colleagues when he said that there are people who want to flatter the Europeans here by calling them the best of individuals but when they go to the beach they say they are trying to drive them out of the country bag and baggage. I wonder whether he was referring to me and my Congress colleagues or some other individuals he had in his mind. Well, I take it that he was referring to me, since he has not the courtesy now to get up and contradict my inference. What contradiction is there in that? Can I not admire the Englishman, his character, his integrity, his sportsmanship, his great genius for administration and every virtue, public and private, and yet tell him, 'much as I love you, I would love you far better if you are all on the other side of the Suez' . . ."

* The Hon. Mr. G. T. H. Bracken:—"On a point of order, Mr. President. Is this discussion relevant to the Delimitation Committee Report?"

* The Hon. the President:—"At any rate not the praise the Hon. Member is giving to the officials of the European community."

* Mr. C. Ramalinga Reddi:—"Sir, I am very glad the modesty of the European does not want me to proceed further on this line of adulation. If I was irrelevant I was only following the foot-steps of the Hon. the Leader of the House, whom the Hon. the Finance Member did not question at the time."

* The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu:—"As a matter of personal explanation, Sir. I had to say that because of the speech that preceded it, but now there is no occasion for it."

* Mr. C. Ramalinga Reddi:—"I have nothing more to say except that I would request my Hon. Friend to see that things have not only to be numbered but to be weighed. At the time the elections took place, I mean the elections that brought my Hon. Friend the Leader of the Justice party into power—I do not grudge him that position—the Congress did not contest the elections. It might have been a wrong policy, or it might have been a right policy. That is not the point. But, can you as honest people deny that the fact of the Congress not coming into the electoral field has to a very great extent impaired the representative character of this Council? I put it to you as gentlemen. Such being the case, I think you would be enhancing the reputation of Indians for fair play and you would be establishing valuable precedents in legislative integrity and improving the tone of our public life by candidly conceding that in the present circumstances of this Council it would be best to allow all sections to express their opinions, and not to

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(ii) that multi-member constituencies with cumulative voting will, instead of diminishing or eliminating communal strife, accentuate the same, while single-member constituencies are best suited to achieve the object the Committee has in view;

(iii) that the proposals of the Madras Delimitation Committee and the Local Government are best suited for working the constitution on party basis in this Province and for the proper and beneficial functioning of Provincial Autonomy;

(iv) that, to help the minorities, which is the object of the Hammond Committee, single non-transferable vote is preferable to the cumulative vote;

(v) that cumulative voting would generally lead to the spoiling of voting papers and wastage of votes, and that on this ground alone single non-transferable vote is preferable ".'

" In the first place Mr. President, I have got to express a word of congratulation to the members of the Hammond Committee for the commendable promptitude with which they have tackled the work of a tremendous magnitude. The time at their disposal as we are all well aware, Mr. President, was very short and the amount of evidence, the mass of literature that the Hammond Commission had to master was something substantial. With all that the Commission composed as it was of eminent jurists and an ex-Governor of a Province have been able to master the details in an astoundingly short period and have presented their report. I have nothing but praise for the commendable promptitude with which the Commission had done their duty. Unfortunately, however, this promptitude has had its disadvantages. Some of the most vital points that concern the people of this Province have unfortunately been dealt with in a great hurry and perhaps with insufficient consideration. One such point is the splitting up of constituencies in this Province. It has been the desire of His Majesty's Government, as expressed in the terms of reference issued to the Hammond Commission, that as far as possible it should be their general aim to ensure a maximum degree of contact between the candidates and the electors for the convenience of both due regard being had to administrative needs. The terms of reference are very important, Mr. President, in guiding the deliberations of the Hammond Commission. Unfortunately we see before us a total neglect of the terms which His Majesty's Government have laid down for the guidance of the Commission, viz., the maximum degree of contact between the candidates and electors and the convenience of both due regard being paid to administrative needs. In the order of Government No. 511, dated 13th November 1935, disposing of the second report of the Delimitation Committee, Government, on a consideration of all the

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available material, have come definitely to the conclusion that the single-member constituency as opposed to multi-member constituency would serve to maintain a contact with electors and that it would be impossible under that system for any candidate to shirk his responsibility; that it would induce a candidate to concentrate his attention on the electorate that returns him and that it would produce a majority capable of supporting a stable Government. The Hammond Commission unfortunately has not touched a single item in the conclusions drawn by the Government, but of their own accord proceeded to ignore the instructions and make recommendations differing from the instructions given by His Majesty's Government. The Commission was not unaware Mr. President of the desirability of maintaining single-member constituencies. They have expressed their agreement in the following words:

'Single-member constituencies help the healthy development of the party system, a consummation much to be desired in the interests of future political development in India. They are less expensive and save delay and they are better calculated to produce stable majorities. The risk that minorities may secure a less adequate representation than would be possible under a system of multi-member constituencies is admitted. But it is claimed that the other advantages of single-member constituencies are so overwhelming as to constitute a strong argument for their universal adoption except in those cases in which a multi-member constituency is necessitated by such factors as the existence of scheduled class seats, or the reservation of seats for Mahrattas or backward tribes.'

" After having admitted expressly that a single-member constituency 12
system is much better than that of multi-member constituencies, it is p.m.
unfortunate that the Commission came to a contrary decision by recommending as a rule multi-member constituencies for this province as well as Bombay. The conditions in Bombay are apparently different, and we are not concerned with that. But with reference to Madras, the volume of opinion against multi-member constituencies has been so great that it is not fair on the part of the Hammond Committee to brush aside such volume of opinion and to recommend multi-member constituencies. One of the statements made by the Committee is very interesting in this connexion. It stated:

'Faced in ordinary circumstances with the unanimous recommendation of a Local Government and with the recommendation of the majority of a representative and weighty Provincial Delimitation Committee, we should have felt the greatest hesitation in putting forward a solution different from that advocated by them, save in the presence of quite exceptional circumstances.'

" Reading this statement, one would naturally think that the conclusion arrived at by the Hammond Committee would be in favour of single-member constituencies recommended by the Provincial Delimitation Committee and by the Local Government. But, unfortunately, while the admissions are all on one side, the conclusions are all the other way. That is the unfortunate feature of the Hammond Committee Report. Sir, the admissions are in favour of the majority opinion in the Provincial Committee, while the conclusions are in favour of the minority opinion, which seems rather strange to a person who takes

a dispassionate view of the report. What induced the Hammond Committee to come to the conclusion of recommending multi-member constituencies is stated in their own words thus:

> 'The debates in the Provincial Legislative Council which is formed on a broader basis and which is the representative mouth-piece of the Presidency at the present stage, revealed a very strong current of opinion in favour of multi-member constituencies. Their adoption was further insistently advocated by some of the most important and representative organs of the Press in Madras, and the enquiries we made convinced us that, on this question, the general sense of public opinion was not represented by the view advocated by the majority of the Provincial Committee.'

I would just say a word or two with reference to each of these reasons adduced by the Hammond Committee. Taking the first, namely, 'the debates in the Provincial Legislative Council . . . revealed a very strong current of opinion in favour of multi-member constituencies.' I submit it is true there were less number of speakers on this side of the House advocating single-member constituencies for the simple reason that the Provincial Delimitation Committee, which consisted of a number of eminent Members of this House and of others outside who took a dispassionate view of these matters, and the Local Government with an avowed knowledge of men and matters and circumstances relating to this province, had deliberately come to the conclusion that single-member constituencies would serve the interests of this Presidency better than multi-member constituencies. Such being the case, where was the need for Members on this side of the House, I ask, to get up and say that they were in favour of single-member constituencies and condemned multi-member constituencies? The whole time of the House, as you know, Sir, during the course of the debate had been taken up by the Members of the Opposition, so much so that there was very little time for the Members on this side of the House to express their opinion in favour of single-member constituencies, particularly in view of the fact that it has already been taken as an accepted fact that the system of single-member constituencies is in the best interests of this province. The second reason advanced by the Hammond Committee is, that 'Their adoption was further insistently advocated by some of the most important and representative organs of the Press in Madras.' Except perhaps one newspaper which is run more or less on a communal basis and another vernacular paper, I do not think that any of the dailies that are published in this city made any insistent advocacy in favour of multi-member constituencies. That is a statement, I respectfully submit, open to question. The third reason adduced by the Hammond Committee is, 'the enquiries we made convinced us that, on this question, the general sense of public opinion was not represented by the view advocated by the majority of the Provincial Committee.' One wonders how the Hammond Committee came to such a startling conclusion as that from the debate on the floor of this House. The Provincial Delimitation Committee consisted of Members of this Council as well as outsiders who have studied the question from all points of view, and have taken part from time to time in the deliberations of the Committee, and excepting for a small minority, the majority of the

members expressed themselves definitely in favour of single-member constituencies. That being so, it is not clear how the Hammond Committee happened to say that 'the enquiries we made convinced us that the general sense of public opinion' was in favour of multi-member constituencies. Is it fair to say that the opinion of the majority of the Provincial Delimitation Committee did not reflect the general sense of public opinion? Is it fair to say that the opinion of the minority of the Provincial Committee expressed in their dissenting minute is entitled to more weight than the considered opinion of the majority of the members of the Provincial Committee? The report states elsewhere, Mr. President, that an ex-Chief Minister and two other M.L.Cs. are signatories to the minority memorandum. But as against an ex-Chief Minister and two M.L.Cs., there were three ex-Ministers in the majority of the Committee. There was Sir Parasuram Patro, an ex-Minister; there was Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar, an ex-Minister, and there was the Chairman of the Provincial Committee who is also an ex-Minister. Thus there were three ex-Ministers against one ex-Minister who represented the minority. And there were any number of M.L.Cs. among the majority. There were two Executive Councillors on the Committee, one of whom is an ex-Minister, and he has seen serviee in far off places like South Africa, and there was the doughty champion of the Round Table. There were also two I.C.S. officers of excellent standing with considerable breadth of vision and vast experience. If the opinion of these persons who formed the majority in the Government and also in the Provincial Delimitation Committee ought to be set at nought, because the opinion of the minority is to be taken into account, I think, to say the least, it is unreasonable.

"There is one other point, Mr. President, which I would like to urge before I close my remarks, and that is the opinion expressed by the Sind Delimitation Committee with reference to the question of single-member and multi-member constituencies. They say:

'The multi-member constituencies, by reason of their plural nature, the lesser contact between the people and those who represent them, the multiplicity of votes, of voters and representatives, offer greater opportunities for manipulation and intrigue, for the evasion of responsibility, the practice of deception, and for the buying and selling of votes than do single-member constituencies where one representative is alone responsible to a smaller number of electors.'

"That position is reflected in all its details in this Province with reference to multi-member constituencies.

"As regards the cumulative vote *versus* single non-transferable vote, the reason adduced by the Hammond Committee is that it is 'of opinion that given the intensity, the bitterness, and the importance of inter-caste strife in Madras, there is, at any rate under present conditions, a strong case for taking steps to remove it.' I would like to repeat the reasons of the Hammond Committee to the House, and I would question whether the bitterness, and intensity of inter-caste strife are going to disappear by the institution of the cumulative vote. The cumulative vote, we all know, enables a voter to plump all his votes in favour of a single candidate. But the Hammond Committee

state that if the single non-transferable vote recommended by the Provincial Delimitation Committee and also acquiesced in by the Local Government, is given effect to, it will introduce all sub-communal parties. They say ' a Kamma will vote for a Kamma; a Kapu for a Kapu; a Vellala for a Vellala; a Brahman for a Brahman; a Nadar for a Nadar; a Mudaliyar for a Mudaliyar; a Kavandar for a Kavandar.' One would seriously ask the question, having regard to the condition in this province and having regard to the communal factions and sympathies, whether it is possible by the mere substitution of the cumulative vote to alter the conditions that actually exist in this country.

12-45 p.m. " Can an Ethiopian change his skin or a leopard its spots? It is not possible by a mere recourse to cumulative voting to change the intensity of bitterness and strife. If the Hammond Committee ever thought that it was going to put an end to all this bitterness and strife by this cumulative method of voting, it was seriously deceived. If a Reddi and a Kamma happen to contest for a single seat, or if three persons—a Kamma, a Reddi and a Brahman—compete for two seats and the centre is preponderatingly a Kamma centre where Kammas have influence, the votes will be recorded in favour of a Kamma, and if it is a Reddi centre, for a Reddi, and the Brahman will go to the wall. It will not be possible by any system of voting to induce Kammas, Reddis, and other caste people not to favour their own caste-men. The fact is there. On the other hand, a single non-transferable vote will undoubtedly help the political advancement and solidarity of the people of this Province.

" I have just to say a word with reference to part (iii) of the amendment, namely, ' that the proposals of the Madras Delimitation Committee and the Local Government are best suited for working the constitution on party basis in this Province and for the proper and beneficial functioning of Provincial Autonomy.'

" I need not say much on this amendment for the simple reason that what I have already stated would cover this point. With these remarks I move the amendment."

* Khan Bahadur YAHYA ALI SAHIB Bahadur:—" Mr. President, Sir, in seconding the amendment that has been moved by my hon. Friend, Mr. Appadurai Pillai, I do not propose to cover the entire field as he has very ably dealt with the question in all its details. So I shall content myself with stating my views on one or two main questions on this occasion. The suggestion has been made by the Hon. the Finance Member that only the main issue will be considered now. Sir, undoubtedly the supreme question that has to be considered is one relating to the controversy between single-member and multi-member constituencies. Before I take up the question, I wish to dispose of one remark that has been made by the Hon. the Leader of the Opposition. He stated that in dealing with the report of a body of this complexion, of a committee presided over by an ex-Governor of a Province and composed of two eminent jurists who have given more or

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less judicial decisions on the questions at issue, we have to hold our tongue and should not indulge in empty discussions. Sir, I really do not know whether the premises are quite correct. I am not sure whether the Hammond Committee were to have the last say in the matter. They were only a body for submitting a report, for making certain recommendations on some important questions referred to them for consideration. It has been the practice for Government to appoint gentlemen who have been on the Bench to committees of this kind so that they may bring their clarity and breadth of outlook to bear on the questions before them. So I agree with my hon. Friend the mover that this body had merely a deliberative function to perform and it has done it. The question is still a live issue and it has to be finally decided not even by His Majesty's Government but by Parliament. And His Majesty's Government in considering the report will naturally allow themselves to be somewhat influenced by the expressions of public opinion.

"There is one other objection raised by the other side, that this House at all events has no authority to express any definite opinion on this question. As regards that too I shall have to join issue with my friend there. One of the many important considerations that had led them to the conclusions is the fact that when the report of the Provincial Delimitation Committee came up for discussion in this House there was a certain expression of opinion of a preponderating nature and from that the Hammond Committee drew the conclusion that what they call the accredited mouth-piece of public opinion of the Province, to wit, this Council, was in favour of a certain institution, namely, the plural-member constituency and therefore they wanted to implement that and they acted upon it to a large extent. The Members of the Hammond Committee have conceded that the Provincial Government and the Provincial Committee had recommended the institution of single-member constituencies. They further realized that in all provinces except in Bombay there has been a consensus of opinion in favour of single-member constituencies; they further realized that in most advanced countries which have developed parliamentary institutions the practice was in favour of single-member constituencies. They were confronted with these weighty arguments. Against this array of arguments they have come to the conclusion in favour of multi-member system and based that conclusion on three reasons, the first being that though only three members of the Provincial Committee dissented from the majority view, in the Legislative Council however which was a larger body and which, they concede was the mouth-piece of public opinion of the Province, there was abundant expression of opinion against single-member system. Secondly they felt that the important and influential press of the Province insistently advocated the multi-member system. Thirdly, with reference to their own enquiries they came to know that the trend of public opinion was in favour of multi-member constituency. Therefore I do not see why the Hon. the Leader of the Opposition should take the Government to task for having placed the matter for the consideration of this House.

" As regards the question of voting you might remember, Sir, that on the occasion when the White Paper came up for discussion, an agreed decision was put forward by all parties. Incidentally a number of other amendments were moved with the result that voting took place and Government could not find out what exactly the position was. When the second report of the Delimitation Committee came up the Government however thought that no voting was desirable because the Provincial Government itself had not made up its mind finally and they wanted this question to be discussed in this House. They went even further, they wanted it to be placed before the Hammond Committee. At that stage the whole question was in a very nebulous state and it was not worth while, as the Finance Member then said, to take the vote of the House. I see from the report that the hon. the Leader of the Opposition supported that motion and as it was not going to be judged by numbers, the respective movers of the amendments withdrew their amendments. The other day at the instance of the Leader of the Opposition, so far as I recollect, a day was fixed for a discussion of this report. Now for the other side to come and say that we should postpone it or take no vote on it, is what passes my comprehension.

" Now coming to the main question, the Hammond Committee has been appointed by virtue of a letter written by the Secretary of State and in that letter, in paragraph (5), it has been very clearly stated as follows:

'As regards the delimitation of the territorial constituencies, His Majesty's Government, while they are content to leave your Committee a wide discretion in matters of detail, are anxious that you should make it your general aim to ensure, so far as the conditions permit, the maximum degree of contact between the candidates and electors, and the convenience of both, due regard being paid to administrative needs; the ideal to be aimed at being constituencies manageable views expressed by the various Provinces concerned.'

'I wish to impress upon the House that in that paragraph wide discretion is given to the Committee in matters of detail, there being hardly any latitude left to the Committee in the matter of declaration of general policy, the general policy being that there should be a maximum degree of contact between the candidates and the electors, due regard being paid to administrative needs. The paramount consideration the Committee should keep in mind was this *sine qua non* of the manageability of the size of constituencies and securing of maximum amount of contact between the candidates and the electors.

" Dealing with the question of single-member constituencies, His Majesty's Government say in paragraph 6:

'Broadly speaking, His Majesty's Government are disposed to think that, save where the establishment of multi-member constituencies is necessitated by the reservation of seats (as in the case of the scheduled castes and of the Mahrattas in Bombay) or for other special reasons, there would be advantage in each constituency returning a single member. The point is however, one which your Committee will no doubt consider in the light of local conditions and of the views expressed by the various Provinces concerned'

" Now, Sir, there are the two considerations which have been enumerated by His Majesty's Government and which have to be kept

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in mind by the Hammond Committee, and these are firstly, local conditions in the province and secondly, the views expressed in the province. As regards local conditions of our province, there could be no better authority to express them than the provincial Government to a certain extent and to a large extent the representatives of the people appointed to the Provincial Committee. When the agreed opinions of both these authorities are rejected, there must have been some very paramount and extraordinary considerations and I look in vain for such reasons in the report except the three reasons mentioned. The first is the opinion of this House. As regards that, unfortunately, I was not present when the matter was discussed in the House. But I have carefully perused the proceedings of those days. None of the Members of the Provincial Delimitation Committee except Mr. Daniel Thomas chose to speak for the simple reason that their views were there in cold print in the report of the Provincial Committee. My hon. Friend, Sir Patro, who was a very influential Member of the Committee did not speak, and Messrs. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar and Siva Raj also did not speak. Their views are well known and are to be found in the report In ascertaining the views of the House, the Hammond Committee should have taken note of the fact that several hon. Members who were Members of the Provincial Committee had clearly expressed their views in the Report itself. It is true that there was no voting. I will detail the circumstances under which it came about that there was no vote taken. It was on an appeal by the Hon. the Finance Member supported by the Leader of the Opposition that it came about like that. In this connexion, I wish to read one passage which will clear the position. The hon. Member, Mr. Basu Dev, rose at one stage and said as follows:—

'I would not have risen, Mr. President, but for the fact that a large number of hon. Members who spoke on this report opposed single-member constituencies. Lest the idea should gain ground that the majority of this House are in favour of multi-member constituencies, I rise to oppose the system of multi-member constituencies and support the decision of the Committee in favour of single-member constituencies. I am certain that if a vote is taken on this issue, the House will unequivocally give its decision in favour of single-member constituencies.'

This statement was made and there was no challenge.

"Now, Sir, as regards the second ground, it has been sufficiently met by my hon. Friend, Mr. Appadurai Pillai. As regards the other ground, it is unfortunate that we are not in possession of the evidence that has been published in the third volume of the Report which made the Committee feel that there is a body of opinion in this province in favour of multi-member constituencies. I am informed that in that volume, all the evidence taken has not been published—but that only a very few extracts have been published—and that so far as Madras is concerned, no extract has been published on the question of single-member versus multi-member constituencies except the evidence of a member of the Provincial Committee given in the atmosphere of Bombay which seems to be saturated with the multi-member idea. Bombay seems to have dominated the minds of the Members of the Committee a little too

much. Sir, the circumstances of that province are such that no other alternative could be reached by the Provincial Committee. There they have three big, influential and rich communities practically outside the Hindu fold claiming representation, viz., the Jains, the Jews and the Parsis. They are very rich and have a considerable influence on the commercial, economic and political life of the province. The Committee unanimously urged and the Government felt that some device must be found to secure representation for them all. It was mainly on account of that consideration that the Local Government and the Provincial Committee of that place urged their solution on the Hammond Committee and the latter was constrained to accept it. There is no such consideration here in our province. I think the Provincial Committee of our province was right in urging that the direct effect of any system of multi-member constituencies would be the splitting up of the communities in the Hindu fold. On the merits of the question itself, arguments have been advanced both for and against. The facts are clear. The tendency for electoral reform has been in the direction of single-member constituencies. If you examine the British figures, you will find that out of 615 members of the House of Commons, there are only 37 who are returned by either dual or treble-member constituencies. Of these 37 members, 34 are returned by 17 dual-member constituencies and 3 are returned by a solitary three-member constituency. All these constituencies have been carved out of boroughs and are not in the counties. So that, applying that model—it is on that model that the new Constitution has been framed—we find that there is no necessity to deviate from that practice and establish here a system which is not conducive to achieve the results which the Committee has mentioned. The main argument of the Provincial Government advanced again and again in favour of the single-member constituencies is that to establish stable ministries and stable majorities and for harmoniously carrying on the Government which is really much more important than the comparatively unimportant question of securing representation for every tiny fragment of the communities, such constituencies are the best. I submit this object could not be achieved if we have multi-member constituencies as they will emphasize the separatist tendencies. With these few words, I heartily commend the amendment of my hon. Friend, Mr. Appadurai Pillai."

Mr. K. R. VENKATARAMA AYYAR:—"May I request you, Sir, to allow the Congress motion also to be moved now?"

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Does not a vote on this motion conclusively dispose of the Congress motion also?"

Mr. K. R. VENKATARAMA AYYAR:—"But, Sir, the Congress motion deals with the question of multi-member constituencies. The first item in the amendment of Mr. Appadurai Pillai raises the question of the terms of reference of the Hammond Committee. That refers directly to the question of the single-member versus multi-member constituencies. That is the very point on which the Congress amendment

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emphasizes. If these are dealt with separately, we shall have to speak first on the one and then on the other. It will give hon. Members two opportunities to speak on the same subject."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—" What I meant was that if we dispose of the amendment now under consideration, the amendment given notice of by Mrs. Rukmani Lakshmipathi would not arise at all. If, on the other hand, hon. Members feel that we may discuss that motion as well now and vote upon it, the result will practically be the same."

Diwan Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGAM CHETTIYAR:—" Sir, there is one question which is not covered by the amendment given notice of and just now moved and that is the question of the distributive vote. The question whether the distributive vote or the cumulative vote should be adopted is a third point which will have to be considered also."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—" Mrs. Lakshmipathi may move her amendment."

Mrs. A. RUKMANI LAKSHMIPATHI:—" Sir, the amendment will be moved by my hon. Friend, Mr. Ramaswami Mudaliyar."

Mr. K. KOTI REDDI:—" Sir, on the question of system of voting, I have an amendment which recommends the distributive system."

* The Hon. Mr. G. T. H. BRACKEN:—" Sir, I would submit that this might confuse the issue. One issue is single-member as against multi-member constituencies and the other issue is cumulative as against distributive vote. If these two points are discussed together, it would rather confuse the issues."

Diwan Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGAM CHETTIYAR:—" Sir, the issues are three and each issue could be voted upon separately. At the time of voting, the issues may be put separately."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" Mr. President, Sir, the amendment standing against my name emphasizes the necessity to adopt the recommendations of the Hammond Committee so far as the constituencies go. With regard to the system of voting the amendment suggests that instead of the cumulative system of voting recommended by the Hammond Committee, the distributive system of voting be adopted.

" Sir, I do not want to canvass the position already emphasized by Members on this side of the House—the Congress side and the Members of the United Nationalist Party in this House. Sir, ever since the time the Reforms were talked about, the controversy has been raging about the desirability of adopting the single-member or multi-member constituencies.

" As one who has had the privilege of contesting an election, not 1-]
only to this Hon. House but also to various local bodies—I hope the p.
House would pardon me for making this personal reference—so far as the question of getting the best representative to represent these institutions, especially in the case of the Legislatures of the land, is concerned, multi-member constituencies according to my humble opinion

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are the best suited to represent the real feeling and impulses of the people at large. For my part, I would not have dared to put forward a proposition of this nature had it not been for the absence of one condition which is the precursor of all well-established democracies, viz., the prevalence of franchise on an adult franchise basis in this country. Where that pre-requisite is absent it is incumbent upon us to devise the next best alternative. For my part I would not have dared to put forward this amendment had it not been for the fact that adult franchise has been recognized as one of the essential factors for the successful administration of our present-day institutions in this Presidency. We, who have been working in the labour field and for a few years in the political field or are claiming to represent the forward political opinion in this Presidency, have been agitating and crying hoarse about the desirability of enfranchising every adult in this Presidency. That proposition having been negatived, the next best method by which we can achieve true representation in the Legislatures of this Presidency is to devise a system which will in a large measure get rid of communal and sub-communal differences and make corruption and other malpractices impossible. And this, with my little experience, I am in a position to say, namely, that the larger the number of votes the lesser is the chance for corruption. Take for instance, a small electoral circle—the municipal ward—or a larger electoral circle—the district board—the chance of corrupting the voters decreases in proportion to the larger number of voters and that is one reason why we are moving this amendment for the adoption of multi-member constituencies which would logically mean a much larger number of voters than in single-member constituencies. I do not propose to cover the grounds urged in the Hammond Committee Report on behalf of multi-member constituencies, but I would just meet one point raised by my hon. Friend, Mr. Appadurai Pillai, when he moved his amendment. The Hammond Committee itself recognizes the limitation of the representative capacity of this Council when they refer to it as 'the political mouthpiece of this Presidency at the present stage,' meaning thereby that, although the Council may claim to be the representative or the political mouth of this Presidency for the time being, still in the sense in which that term 'representative' is used, this Council has ceased to represent or reflect the opinion of the voters at large outside this House. I do not propose to labour this point much further after the clear exposition of the hon. the Leader of the Opposition subsequently followed by the hon. Member from Chittoor, the Leader of the Congress Party in this House. I would only add that the desirability of having multi-member constituencies has been emphasized by several Members of this House and also by those outside whose opinion is entitled to great weight. The minority report of the Provincial Delimitation Committee itself, as the Hammond Committee rightly observes, requires serious consideration, not on account of its numbers but on account of the weighty opinions of those who differ from the majority conclusions and also on account of the position they occupy in the public life of this Presidency.

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" Coming next to the system of voting my amendment recommends a system of voting which the Hammond Committee does not recommend. The Hammond Committee recommends the cumulative system of voting and the Members on the other side do not seem to urge the distributive method of voting. The advantage about the distributive method of voting, to my mind, seems to be that that we start with the initial advantage that the distributive system of voting is one which has been in vogue in all our elections to the Legislative Council and other bodies, and, as we have found, has worked well and has stood the practical test of time. In practical working nothing wrong has been found in the system of distributive voting and the members of various communities, both majority and minority, have been returned under the distributive method of voting and the argument of the Hammond Committee that, when they considered or examined the desirability of adopting the single non-transferable vote, they thought that a Kappu or a Kamma or a Mudaliyar or a Vanniya could not succeed in an election, ceases to have any force so far as the distributive method of distributive voting to vote if possible to as many candidates form of voting is one with which the voters of this Presidency are familiar. It is also a system which would give freedom to the voters to exercise as many of their votes as possible. I wish also to emphasize the point which has not been taken into consideration by the Hammond Committee, viz., that the voters are compelled under the method of distributive voting to vote if possible to as many candidates as there are seats. On the other hand the cumulative system of voting gives the voters the option of plumping all their votes to one candidate whom they want to succeed. So instead of giving the voters the necessary guidance and freedom to vote as they choose as the Hammond Committee says, it fetters their discretion in the sense that it gives them an opportunity to exercise their votes in favour of one candidate whom they want to succeed. If we examine the proposal recommended by the Hammond Committee we find that so far as cumulative system of voting is concerned, it would in a large measure perpetuate the communal or sub-communal feelings or interests, which it must be the attempt of every honest politician to do away with as far as possible in the public life of this Presidency. Sir, I hear Members on the opposite side questioning whether there is in fact any honest politician at all. I do not know whether Members on the opposite side have set up an ideal before them. But if a standard of honesty or political convention is to be set up, it is to my mind a condition precedent, that as far as possible every person, who is interested in the public life of this Presidency, must set up before him honest ideals and traditions.

" Let me pass on to a few more arguments about the distributive method of voting. If the ideal of overcoming the communal and sub-communal differences that have unfortunately entered our public life is to be achieved, then I suggest that the one safest way of doing that would be to reflect the opinions of the voters in its true sense by compelling them to vote for as many candidates as possible and not by

promoting communal differences by giving them the privilege of plumping all their votes in favour of one candidate. This method of distributive voting has to be preferred both to the single non-transferable method of voting as well as the cumulative method of voting. The Hon. the Finance Member speaking this morning suggested that so far as the method of cumulative voting has become a *fait accompli*, nothing can be achieved by enlarging upon this point or proposing further amendments. I am sorry that he has made these observations. We, as Members of this House, are bound to express our opinions for what they are worth. The Hon. the Finance Member may say that the volume of speech may not indicate the strength of conviction. But so far as this point is concerned, I have to humbly tell him that he is mistaken when he attributes to Members speaking on this motion opinions about which they are not fully convinced. Whatever may be the effect of this amendment, I may in all seriousness urge that so long as we have not got a full-fledged democratic constitution, it is primarily necessary that we should devise an alternative means which would minimize the evils of a system of Government or of a Government which is sought to be introduced under the Reforms. With regard to the other point the Hon. the Finance Member made this morning, so far as multi-member or single-member constituencies are concerned, it is hoped that, by the strength of numbers by pressing this motion to a division on this question and by taking votes, he feels that there is some possibility of turning the scales once again, of turning the final decision made by the Secretary of State into one in conformity with that made by the Local Government. If that 1-30 p.m. chance is available so far as the question of single-member and multi-member constituencies is concerned, I do not see why the Government should not keep an open mind even with regard to the system of voting and reconsider whether the cumulative system of voting could not be replaced by the single non-transferable voting recommended by the Madras Government or the distributive voting recommended in the amendment which has been moved this afternoon. With these words, Sir, I move the amendment standing in my name which runs as follows:—

> 'Add *the following at the end*:—
>
> "*and on such consideration this Council is of opinion that multi-member constituencies with the distributive vote are best suited to the conditions of this Presidency*" '."

The House then adjourned for lunch.

(After Lunch—2-30 p.m.)

2-30 p.m. *Diwan Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGAM CHETTIYAR:—" Mr. President, Sir, I beg to second the motion moved by Mr. Ramaswami Mudaliyar. The motion contains the opinion of the Minority Report of the Provincial Delimitation Committee and deals with both the points, namely, the formation of constituencies and the method of

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voting. As regards the formation of constituencies, the motion postulates that in the circumstances of this Province multi-member constituencies will be most proper and beneficial. Sir, I am a student of political science enough to recognize that under ordinary circumstances single-member constituencies and the smallest units as constituencies are the best. (The Hon. Mr. G. T. H. Bracken: 'Hear, hear.') Yes, theoretically I bow to that view even now. But unfortunately there are circumstances in our country which make wide changes necessary in the application of that theory. Sir, in a country like India where the sort of representative government we are trying, is itself a new thing and where we have been, proceeding on lines not altogether of pure politics alone, I fear that the application of this theory by itself as it is would work not for the benefit of the province but to the contrary. The object, at any rate, the professed object of both sides of the House seems to be the same, namely, to avoid the formation of communal parties in this Council and to work towards the formation of steady parties on proper political lines. At any rate, Sir, verbally both sides of the House are agreed that this is the object they have in view. But the question we shall have to consider is how that object is going to be attained in actual working. If, as a matter of fact, the arrangement that is contended for by the Government is going to help in bringing into existence non-communal political parties, certainly, whatever the other considerations may be one is bound to accept that arrangement. But the question is, is it going to help? How are we situated in this country? We have been working the present constitution for some time now. We have had very big constituencies, constituencies as big as a district. No doubt it has been the experience of most people that members once elected are not thereafter in touch with their constituencies and they do not consult their constituencies as often as they should. That is a legitimate charge that has been brought against the working of the present system. It has been recognized that the bigger the constituencies the more difficult it is for the members to be in touch with their constituencies. But what will be the result of having single-member constituencies? Sir, in such cases constituencies will in most cases be confined to practically a taluk. At any rate, I find that in my district there are more single-taluk constituencies than two-taluk constituencies, if I may put it like that. What will be the result of having such constituencies? We know, Sir, that there are local factions and local communal interests. Therefore the result will be that the candidate who is returned will be not merely the communal candidate, that is to say, the candidate who is important in a particular community which dominates a particular locality, but the candidate who is important so far as one of the two factions in the locality is concerned. The faction that predominates will elect its own man. He will be elected not because he has the capacity to serve the country, not because he has got knowledge or he has got other qualifications or interest to represent the territory, but simply because he happens to be the nominee of the

particular faction which dominates the locality. Whatever may be said in other countries, about the advantage of a member being in touch with his constituency, the arrangement proposed is one which ought to be avoided in our province. We should not allow small cliques and factions dominating a particular area to send their representatives to the Council merely as representatives of those factions or cliques. Moreover, Sir, with all that we have been saying, political instincts as such have not developed very much in this province. Every one who stands as a candidate stands generally on the support of the community to which he belongs. If a person who is otherwise qualified wants to come in, he can only do so after serving the interests of the dominant community. To take a concrete example, if a voter has only one vote, he will certainly give it to the candidate belonging to his community. But if he has a second vote, there is a chance for the other man who probably can represent the particular area better. He may go and say to the voter, 'You may give one of your votes to your own man, but at least you can give the second vote to me.' If there is only one vote such a thing would become impossible and the second candidate who might for the purposes of this Council be a better man will have no chance whatever of coming in. That will be the position. Therefore, Sir, it seems to me that this system of single-member constituencies is going to make it impossible for the persons, whose presence in this Council may be necessary and will be useful, to come in, because there will be no room for them in the circumstances obtaining in the country. It is for that reason that I will ask the Government, at least that part of the Government which does not consider this a party question, to seriously reconsider this matter before they make their final report to the Secretary of State by cable or otherwise.

"Here again, Sir, the question comes in: What will be its effect on the formation of parties in this Province? Single-member constituencies will bring in only members of particular communities and these members will again form groups in the Council. Therefore where is the question of formation of political parties? If on the other hand at least two candidates are returned from one area, and one of them happens to be a person who has not been returned on the sole ground of his belonging to a particular community, there will be better chances of formation of parties on proper political lines. Instead of that, if a candidate is returned on account of the fact that he belongs to a particular community, he will belong to that particular community in the Council also, that is to say, all the members of that community in the Council will form a community group, with the result that instead of real political parties we shall have community groups alone, such as Reddis, Kammas, Mudaliyars, Pillais and whatever it may be. Each group so formed will be working for getting special consideration for the members of that group in the formation of Ministers and so on and there will be no growth of political parties at all. Therefore this system of single-member constituencies will help important communities to dominate in particular areas and perpetuate

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the group system. There will also be as a result of this a sort of spoils system. It is certain that it will make it impossible for real political parties to be formed in this province. Therefore the very object with which we start will be frustrated by the arrangement that is now proposed. I hope therefore that at least now the Secretary of State will not yield to the clamour of this mere theoretical enunciation of policy by well-meaning bureaucracy which is accepted also by the other part of the Government for their own purposes. I only hope that the Secretary of State, after all that has passed, after a Committee which we at least consider has been impartial has considered the pros and cons of the question and come to the right conclusion, will not hastily interfere with the decision of this Committee.

"It has been said that the Local Government and the Provincial Delimitation Committee recommended a thing which has been upset by the Hammond Committee without proper material. After all, Sir, what is the Local Government and what is the Provincial Committee? Even in this Provincial Committee there was no unanimity; there was a minority report. Therefore it only comes to this that one party in the Provincial Committee took a certain view and that has been dissented from by the Hammond Committee. Of course, when there are two views one view will have to be dissented from by the persons who consider both the views. The Hammond Committee has only done that. Moreover, Sir, as between the Local Government and the majority in the Delimitation Committee there is bound to be agreement, because the Committee itself was appointed by the Local Government and nobody can think of the Local Government appointing a majority of members of the Committee who were holding views different from their own. (The Hon. Mr. G. T. H. Bracken: 'We did, Sir.)

"I do not expect that any Government will appoint a Committee, 2-
the majority of whose members will hold views opposed to those of P.
the Government. After all, as I said, the Committee is a Committee nominated by the Local Government itself, and so, it is not strange that the Committee and the Government should agree. That is no reason why we should think that the views are supported by two different bodies and therefore the Hammond Committee should have accepted those views. Even in regard to members of this Council, we find for instance, members of the Committee like Messrs. Yahya Ali Sahib and Daniel Thomas on one side and Mr. Raman Menon and Dr. Subbarayan on the other side, holding different views. That is exactly what has happened in the Committee and that is no reason why we should think that the Committee as a whole has agreed with the Government views. And that is what is happening in this Council too. Therefore, I submit, there is absolutely no reason to think that this province has been in any special way let down by the Hammond Committee by the fact that some of the recommendations of this Government have not been accepted by that Committee. After all, it was for the Hammond Committee to go into the pros and cons and do justice.

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" Unfortunately, even with reference to the consideration of these matters, the position was not as satisfactory as it could have been. The biggest party in the province, the party which has shown in the by-elections that it has the very wide support of the people—that party was not represented on the Provincial Delimitation Committee. I know the Hon. the Finance Member will say that he wanted to put one member of that party on it, but that he would not serve. Well, whatever the position of that party may be in this Council, the Hon. the Finance Member knows that the position of that party in the country is something very different from what it is in this House. He knows very well indeed from the elections that have taken place to the Assembly, from the elections that are taking place to the several local bodies in the province and also from the several by-elections which have taken place, that that party is the dominating party in this province at the present moment. In spite of that, in a Committee consisting of about fourteen members, he chose to give one seat to a member of that party—it is something, which one may call, was ironical. He wanted that party which had the largest following in the country to be represented by one member out of fourteen. And what would have happened if he were on that Committee? Instead of four, probably there would have been five dissentients. A party which was entitled to more than a majority representation on the Committee could not put itself in such a position. If a difference of opinion arose, that party member would be the only dissentient as against the thirteen other members. I do not think any person who had the responsibility of leading such a party in this Council would under ordinary circumstances undertake such a heavy responsibility. If Mr. C. R. Reddi declined to serve on that Committee, I for one think that he was quite justified in doing so. As I said, the Committee was a nominated Committee; it had not on it any representation of the biggest party in the province; it mainly represented the Justice Party which has the controlling voice in this Council; the result is that it is only the view of the Justice party that has been reflected in the deliberations and in the conclusions of the Committee. And if their conclusions have not been accepted, I beg to submit that they as sportsman ought to take the decision of the Hammond Committee and not come here again and try to upset it in a roundabout way.

" Sir, if the Secretary of State is going to be informed of the discussions here to-day, I hope the Hon. the Finance Member will also mention in the despatch, either by cable or in writing, that this House has outlived its normal life by three years, that every by-election that has taken place in the general constituencies has been won by the Congress party, that the Provincial Delimitation Committee consisted mostly of the members of the Justice party and that any opinion given now represents only the opinion of that party and nothing more.

" As regards the other matter, viz., the question of the method of voting, there again the proposal made by the Provincial Committee was the single non-transferable vote. That is a device which no doubt is known to students of political science, but I am yet to know a country where it has been adopted. (The Hon. Mr. G. T. H. Bracken: 'In

Portugal.') I am told that it is in vogue in Portugal. Very well; probably so, but I have no knowledge about that. Anyway, no other country has thought it fit to adopt that method of voting. The Provincial Committee has recommended this queer system of voting, and it seriously thought that the ordinary villager would understand and work such a complicated system as that. The distributive vote is a method with which the villager is already familiar. He has been using his vote under that system for the past sixteen years. Not only that; if my argument earlier is correct, viz., if after giving the first vote to the man belonging to the community which dominates in an area, a chance is to be given to the best man available there, the best method would be the distributive vote. I may be told that in the cumulative system also he can do it. I agree, and I would welcome that as the second best system. Under the distributive vote, the villager may, no doubt, give one vote and withhold the second; but ordinarily he may not do it. There is very much less chance in this case of a man who wants to give the vote to a particular candidate, giving no vote at all to another man, than in the case of giving both his votes to the man of his choice. If he is told for instance, 'you can give both your votes to one man,' the chances of his giving one vote to his community man and the other vote to another are less than when he is told 'you have got two votes which you can exercise; if you do not want to exercise one or both the votes, you can leave them well alone.' These two things are quite different. When these alternatives are put before him, there is certainly a better chance of the distributive system working properly and to better advantage in the interests of the country than the cumulative system. It seems to me that the advantage rests entirely with the present system of distributive vote. There is absolutely no reason made out for changing it. I want to lay more stress on the fact that the distributive system has been in vogue now for a long time, and if any change is necessary, it will have to be proved that that system has failed and that therefore the other system is necessary. I beg to submit that it has not been proved that the distributive system has been a failure in this province. For these reasons, I beg to suggest that we may ask the Secretary of State to change in favour of the present distributive system.

"It has been said, Sir, that the Secretary of State has been informed of this debate and that he is waiting to know the result. I do not know who is responsible for it. Have the Government thought fit to make up their minds already and let the Secretary of State know that they were going to stage a discussion like this, and that with the majority behind them (it would be a sort of packed affair altogether) they were going to have their old view passed and send the result in a cable? Is this the fact, or has somebody else done this for the Hon. the Finance Member? If by chance any such thing has been done, I should expect the Government to tell the Secretary of State what the real position is, how the House consisting of so many nominated members and of elected members most of whom, as I said, were elected six years back, has been working—with a packed majority—before the Secretary of State makes up his mind on these proposals.

"Sir, these are the salient points that have to be borne in mind in a matter like this. I hope the Government will consider whether under the circumstances now prevailing in this province and in this Council, they should still insist upon taking a vote on these proposals; and if a vote is taken, what it will really represent—whether it will represent the opinion of the parties in the province, or the people in the province or only the individuals who are here. Those, Sir, are the points that have to be very seriously considered. With these words, I second the motion."

.m. * Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar:—"Mr. President, Sir, I must first of all refer to the point once again raised by my hon. Friend, Mr. Chettiyar, namely, the propriety of reconsidering the decision arrived at by the Hammond Committee. My hon. Friend, a distinguished advocate as he is, will I think take his case to the higher court if, in his judgment, justice has not been obtained in the lower court. If he thinks that his point of view is likely to be accepted by a higher tribunal, he does not hesitate to take the case to the higher tribunal. We in the Council are in the same position. The Hammond Committee have made certain recommendations and I think they are no more than recommendations. If we feel that a recommedation is not in the best interests of this province, surely it is open to us to make a further representation leaving it to the final authority to decide what it thinks best in the matter. So, I think no apology is needed on the part of any of us for pleading that this Council should now make clear its considered view.

"Another point that he tried to make out was the whole question was considered and decided by the Provincial Committee as a party question. Sir, owing to circumstances beyond my control, I was not able to be present at the earlier meetings of that Committee. Subsequently I was present at the meetings of the Committee. I must dissent from the suggestion put forward by my hon. Friend, Mr. Chettiyar, that all the questions that came up before the Committee were decided on party lines and so to speak by rule of thumb. Very many questions came up before the Committee and many divisions were taken; by no means, did any of the divisions go along party lines. I think my hon. Friend, Mr. Subbarayan, will bear me out on this point. There were many members on the Committee who were not members of one party or the other; there were also members on the Committee who were not Members of this Council. So, I think that the suggestion of my hon. Friend needs revision in the light of what I have stated.

"I know, Sir, the difficulties that would arise if we have single-member constituencies. In the course of conversations I had with some of my friends, I found that they were rather surprised that I should be in favour of single-member constituencies. They said that if they had single-member constituencies, people like themselves and myself would have very little chance of being returned, because voting would go by the colour of the community to which the candidate belonged. Yet, I feel constrained to give my support in favour

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of single-member constituencies. You may ask me why. It is as a result of the experience of successive elections that I have come to the conclusion that taking all things into consideration, it is best if the voter is made to exercise his choice and definitely to decide to whom he would give his vote. I know my hon. Friend, Dr. Subbarayan, holds the opposite view. With all deference to him I would say that his experience of elections is not as extensive and as intensive as mine. When three or four candidates are standing for multi-member constituencies, several objectionable methods are adopted by the candidates; they go and tell the voters, 'no doubt the man to whom you want to give your vote is a good fellow; he must come and he is sure to head the poll by an overwhelming majority; my case is somewhat doubtful; you will not be prejudicing your friends by the diversion of your votes to me; therefore please give your vote to me.' This is one way of canvassing during elections. What I am striving to show is that; the system of multi-member constituencies lends itself to the exploitation of the ignorant and illiterate voters in many undesirable ways. If we have single-member constituencies and if one of the candidates is to be voted for, voters cannot be misled so easily. The voter will feel obliged to give his vote to the candidate whom he wants to favour. Under the system of multiple constituencies, candidates are tempted to resort to other objectionable methods. I shall explain how. Suppose there are two members to be returned by a constituency and the seats are contested by four or more people, generally the candidates try to work in pair. *A* and *B* work together; *X* and *Y* work together. These gentlemen working in pairs will go to the voters and publicly state that the voters must vote for both of them. But when the time of actual elections comes, these people give completely different instructions to the voters; each of them privately insists on his supporters recording single votes in his favour, to make his return certain. That is why when the counting takes place, you will see so many single votes recorded in favour of one candidate or the other. This answers the point raised by my hon. Friend Mr. Ramalingam Chettiyar. Practically in such cases, the result is that all the votes are given to one candidate and the other candidate does not get any vote at all. So, you see, Sir, how easily the ignorant and illiterate voter may be exploited by unscrupulous candidates. It is stated by some that under a single-member constituency system, the quality of members who may be returned may deteriorate. I do not know what people think of us now and I do not think that the next Council is going to be worse hereafter. I am very strongly of the opinion that the voter should have the right as well as the responsibility of choice. I am willing to admit and it is quite possible that in some cases, head of factions may come in. But after a time, people will come to know that if they returned undesirable people, they get no benefit at all; next time they will think twice before voting for such people; they will probably cast aside all communal considerations and vote for the best man available.

"Yet another thing I have got to mention. What about the people who are represented? Do they not require our services in season and

out of season? If you have a whole district as an electoral unit and if three or four members are returned by it, it comes to this; that every man's business becomes no man's business. But if you divided the districts into smaller areas and make a member responsible for a manageable constituency, the chances are that the candidate would give his best attention to that constituency. I am not one of those who think that the representative of a constituency has his duty to discharge only in this Council. I feel very strongly that he has to work for his constituency not only in the Council but also—even to a large extent—outside the Council. He should go and ascertain their grievances in various matters, approach the proper authorities and get the grievances redressed. The authorities to whom the grievances have to be represented, are not to those Hon. Gentlemen on the Treasury Benches, who often will have to direct us to go elsewhere; but the people on the spot, in the district who are likely to know the facts better and are in a position to tackle the problems aright. In the interests of the constituencies, I should say that smaller constituencies and single-member constituencies are more to be desired. I may be right or I may be wrong according to the view my friends may take but what I have submitted is my honest convection after the experience of successive elections since the Reforms. It is possible that for some years people who should not come may come in. But in the long run, communal differences and caste differences will go and they have to go."

Mr. T. S. Ramaswami Ayyar:—" Mr. President, Sir, I desire at this stage to move the amendment which I have given notice of and which appears last in the agenda—

> 'Add *the following at the end*:—
>
> "*and on such consideration this Council is of opinion that the territorial unit for elections to the Legislative Assembly by the general, Muhammadan and Indian Christian constituencies shall, wherever possible, be a whole district and that for returning members to the general seats each district shall consequently be a plural-member constituency*".'

The Government wants single-member constituencies; the Hammond Committee has suggested plural-member constituencies, but the constituencies, are to be portions of districts. My case is that the present system should continue; the district should be an electoral unit sending a number of representatives to the Assembly; this practice should continue.

" Now, Sir, much has been said about the constitution of this House, some people claiming that it has outlived its life and others claiming that the Madras Province has worked the Reforms very well. I ask this question; if hon. Members who have been returned to this Council feel that everything is quite all right here, I ask them what is wrong with the constituencies which send them here; they have come here as representatives of multi-member constituencies which consist of districts. Has any case been made out that the present constituencies

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have not sent proper representatives, that the present system is bad, that the present system should be scrapped and that there should be single-member constituencies? The case for the multi-member constituency has been very ably put by the Hammond Committee who have taken a very impartial view after going into the special claims of the various provinces. Dealing with Madras, the Hammond Committee have referred to the existence of exceptional circumstances which need plural-member constituencies for at least some time to come. The Members of the Treasury Bench and the Ministerialists have been for a long time fighting for communal justice; they have been saying that they are trying to do good to all communities; they have gone to the extent of providing for communal representation in the services. They say that all communities should have chances. But where is the chance for minority communities if we have single-member constituencies? It is all very well for hon. Members of this House who have special electorates and who are not worried about these questions, to talk of ideals. They say that single-member constituencies are of the right kind. But the case for the minorities has not been fully considered 3
and it is for this reason that the Hammond Committee decided that P
at least for some time to come, plural-member constituencies should continue. (Mr. C. Basu Dev: 'What about Labour?') My hon. Friend who interrupts me thinks that I shall refer to special minorities. But I ask him, has not the question revealed the case for special minorities and has he not been a champion of what he calls backward communities within a majority community? He himself has been championing the cause of a certain class of people called backward communities within the majority communities when he says that they have not been treated well. In regard to the single-member constituencies, it is all very well to talk of ideals, but when we come to realities, you forget the position you yourself take in everyday life. I therefore feel that Government have not really made out a case for the single-member constituencies. It is not as if I feel that as an ideal the multi-member constituency is the best thing. Single-member constituency is of course very good only when certain circumstances exist. As one of the previous speakers has stated, when you have given adult franchise and when you have given every person a chance to vote, you can talk of ideals. But, when you are shutting out so many people and extending the franchise only little by little, and when you are providing for safeguards and representations for certain minorities, do not talk of ideals alone. Either you must have the theory put to its logical extent or take note of the circumstances provided for all contingencies and not only for special contingencies. As I have already stated, Sir, single-member constituency is good, but it can exist only if conditions for favourably working it exist. In support of single-member constituency, it is stated that the candidate should be in touch with the electorate. I ask this House to seriously ponder over this question and see whether, even under the proposed electorate according to which there is to be a single representative for two or three taluks, the candidate will be in touch with every one of the electorate. I can say it is certainly a bogey. You trot it out when it suits your purpose. It is all very well to say that

the candidate should be in touch with the electorate. Suppose two taluks or one revenue division sends a representative. Can hon. Members say that the candidate elected by that constituency will be in touch with, or be able to get his instructions from, the constituency on every subject that comes up before this House?

"Now, Sir, the Government have taken up one attitude and they want to persist in it, because they think that that is the best in the circumstances and they are therefore anxious to force it down our throats. I am afraid, Sir, that is not the correct attitude to adopt. In a matter like this, as has been once before explained by the Hon. the Finance Member during the discussion on this question on a previous occasion, the idea must be to get the views of the different classes of people and find out what is good. It is not merely because they constitute the majority that they should be able to say which is right and which is wrong.

"Again, Sir, in regard to the question of the candidate being in touch with the constituency, what have you got to say about the Indian Christians? The very Government which recommended single-member constituencies with regard to the general Hindu electorate say that in the case of the Indian Christians, the candidate shall be chosen sometimes by many districts, for example, South Kanara, Malabar and the Nilgiris. I wonder how the candidate who comes from that constituency will be in touch with every Indian Christian in those districts.

"Then, Sir, in the case of women, are you giving representation to all women? You have selected certain districts or certain municipalities where women are to vote and you have made exceptions out of the general rule. If you are going to make exceptions like this, how are you going to say that your general rule holds good universally? After all, in a matter like this, you have to find out which is good in the circumstances and not what is good under ideal conditions. I therefore feel that the best method will be to continue the present system of each district being a unit and a multi-member constituency."

* Mr. V. T. ARASU:—"Mr. President, Sir, I rise to second the amendment moved by my hon. Friend, Mr. Ramaswami Ayyar. In doing so, I would like to make a few observations regarding the report of the Hammond Committee. Sir, it is unfortunate that the Hon. the Finance Member should have talked of the Hammond Report in a manner which I think is less than just to the eminent gentlemen who constituted that Committee. The Hon. the Finance Member in speaking of the Report of the Committee said that 'this Government were extremely surprised at the recommendations of the Committee. It is only in the case of Madras that the Committee have departed from the recommendations of the Government and of the Provincial Delimitation Committee. The reasons put forward by the Hammond Committee are singularly unconvincing and I think they have acted on wrong information in this matter.' Sir, I submit it is very strange that the Hon. the Finance Member who usually is very restrained in

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the use of language, should have talked of this report in the manner he did this morning. Sir, it is as I said, less than just to the Committee and particularly to the gentleman from Madras who was one of the members of that Committee, to say that they have acted on wrong information. I believe the Hon. the Finance Member had in view the gentleman from Madras on the Committee when he said that the Committee had acted on wrong information in this matter. I should submit that the presence of the Hon. Justice Sir M. Venkatasubba Rao on the Committee has enhanced the value of the deliberations of the Committee, and I think the report of the Committee is on the whole a very satisfactory and a statesmanlike one. On a reading of the report from the extracts published in the newspapers, I find that the arguments advanced by the Committee in favour of their recommendations are very cogent and convincing, and not ' unconvincing ' as the Hon. the Finance Member would have us believe. The Committee have examined all the systems of voting. For instance, in one paragraph, they have examined what is known as the single transferable voting system, in another paragraph the single non-transferable system and in another paragraph the distributive system and in a fourth they have examined the cumulative system of voting. When that is the fact, I fail to understand, how the Hon. the Finance Member could criticise that report as unconvincing. It is a very convincing document and I think this meed of thanks is due to that Committee for the very instructive report that they have produced in regard to this matter . . ."

The Hon. Mr. G. T. H. Bracken :—" On a point of personal explanation, Mr. President. I never said that the Hammond Committee report was unconvincing. I think I said that their reasons against single-member constituencies were very unconvincing."

* Mr. V. T. Arasu :—" I thank the Hon. the Finance Member for his correction that only the portions of the report which deal with single-member constituencies are unconvincing. I will presently explain to the House how the Hon. the Finance Member is wrong in thinking ' that the creation of single-member constituencies would help the formation of political parties on broad political issues as against communal or caste issues.' Sir, the Hon. the Finance Member with all his wide experience in districts of the Presidency must be aware of the fact that the different communities are, what may be called, localised in certain areas. Take for instance, the district of Guntur. You will find that in Tenali, Bapatla and Narasaraopet taluks about 75 per cent of the population are Kammas. Therefore, I do not believe that any candidate other than a Kamma would hope to succeed in these three taluks if each one of them is to be constituted into one constituency. If all these three taluks, Tenali, Bapatla and Narasaraopet should form one constituency, there is a chance of at least one candidate other than a Kamma candidate, being returned from that constituency. To that extent we shall be minimising caste prejudices playing a great part in elections.

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" As regards the cumulative system of voting, I find no hon. Member of this House has come forward in support of that system. I would like to point out to this House that what they call the advantages of the distributive system are available even under the cumulative system of voting as well. It was suggested by certain hon. Members that under the distributive system of voting every voter has got the option of voting for as many candidates as will have to be returned from that constituency. Under the cumulative system of voting, the voter will plump all his votes in favour of one particular candidate. It must be remembered that under the cumulative system, there is no compulsion on the voter to record his vote in favour of any one particular candidate. Take for instance the case of a constituency returning three members. A voter can record all his three votes either in favour of one candidate or even two candidates or even to all the three candidates. He has that right. Therefore, there is not very much difference between the cumulative and the distributive system of voting except the fact that under the former the voter is given the option of recording all his votes in favour of any one particular candidate. I think my hon. Friend, Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar, was quite correct when he said that as conditions obtained at the present day, the tendency has always been to record single votes in favour of particular candidates. I have got some knowledge of these elections and I can say that in very many districts you will find that a large bulk of those who went to the polls recorded single votes, and have not distributed their votes in favour of all the candidates. If you take the case of elections in the Tanjore district in the year 1930, you will find that as many as 20,000 single votes were recorded in favour of various candidates who offered themselves for election. Out of a total number of 32,000 voters who went to the polls, nearly 20,000 single votes were recorded in favour of various candidates. From this you will find that the tendency on the part of the voters is to record single votes to assure themselves that their favourite candidate is returned. That tendency on the part of the voter cannot be put an end to in spite of any amount of talking on our part. Therefore instead of allowing the voter to record one vote in favour of a particular candidate and wasting the other two votes, here under the cumulative system you give him the option to record all the three votes in favour of a particular candidate.

" This cumulative system has also another advantage for the candidates coming from the Scheduled castes. You will find that after all the voters of the Scheduled castes should be enabled to return a candidate of their choice and liking and it is only the cumulative system of voting that will enable them to return the candidate who enjoys their confidence and who has got the largest measure of support among the Scheduled castes. Under the distributive system or even under the single non-transferable system of voting the voters of the Scheduled castes cannot be sure that a member enjoying their confidence will be returned to the Legislative Council.

" I therefore strongly urge on the Government that the cumulative system of voting suggested by the Hammond Committee should be accepted. After all, Sir, this House is very well aware of the fact that

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the cumulative system of voting has been worked by the Bombay Government from the year 1920 onwards and that elections under that system have been conducted to the utmost satisfaction of all parties and interests concerned. When it has been a success in Bombay I fail to see why it should not be a success in Madras. For these reasons, I submit that the recommendations of the Hammond Committee are most statesmanlike and satisfactory and should be adopted by this House."

* Sriman M. G. PATNAIK Mahasayo:—" Mr. President, Sir, I am really surprised at the attitude taken by the Congressmen here and their camp followers. If the Government had said that they would support the report they would have opposed it. This is my opinion formed from their attitude adopted previously. Take, for instance, the debate on the City Municipal Bill. There it was said that the depressed classes should not have separate electorates. They should have only joint electorates the ground being that separate electorates would encourage communalism. Now you find the thing is completely changed. It is quite inconsistent." 3-3 p.m.

Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" On a point of personal explanation. We suggested joint electorates as against separate electorates."

* Sriman M. G. PATNAIK Mahasayo:—" If people cannot understand I cannot be blamed. The reason why you wanted to have joint electorates was to discourage communalism. What is it you are asking for now? You are asking for one which was opposed then. Are you not? "

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" I moved the amendment and the amendment is quite clear. I gave notice that we are in favour of the distributive system of vote and if my friend, Mr. Patnaik, did not understand it, it is his fault."

* Sriman M. G. PATNAIK Mahasayo:—" You are not the only Congressman to whom I am speaking. (Laughter.) There are so many here."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—" To avoid confusion, the hon. Member would do well to address the chair." (Laughter.)

* Sriman M. G. PATNAIK Mahasayo:—" Whoever supports the report of the Committee is supporting sub-communalism. That is not consistent. That is so whether the opposition includes Congressmen or not. You can easily see it. There are Prachchanna Congressmen and their camp followers. Therefore I am not wrong in saying it. Therefore if the Government had simply stated that they would support the Committee report, then these people would have opposed it. Now let us consider the question on its merits. In the first instance they say this Council has no right to express an opinion. Is it not self-condemned? Therefore their opinion is entitled to very little weight. The Leader of the Opposition said that I was a man who stood self-condemned. Let us hear people who were returned in the by-elections. Congress does not call itself a party. It says it represents the nation;

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note it is not a party. In that case it will be the opinion of the nation. It means that all of us are included. Therefore everybody has got a right to speak and express his opinion. So those people who opposed the motion are half-hearted men. They do not know what the Congress stands for. They may have signed the four-annas Congress creed; but they are not fully Congressmen. Then there is another thing. They say this Council has outlived its normal term and therefore it does not represent the people. I submit this is an entirely mistaken view. The constitution says, subject to the exercise of discretion by His Excellency the Governor, the members will hold office for three years. Supposing instead of prolonging the life, His Excellency had shortened it, what would have been the position? The Council could have been dissolved. Therefore constitutionally His Excellency has got the right either to shorten or prolong the period. Therefore we still represent the constituency subject to the rights given to it under the constitution. Then there is another thing. Congressmen secured some success in certain districts. They think in every district they preponderate. I cannot subscribe to that. So far as my district goes, Congress is still a portion of Madras. Testimony comes from people who have no hold. It is only in case Congress subscribes to the creed of acceptance of office that the camp followers would join the Congress; otherwise they would not join. (Laughter.) Now, with regard to the merits, you find from the instructions given that as far as possible single-member constituencies should be formed. Well, we have got that instruction from His Majesty's Government. What are the reasons given? Of course the Committee was bound to follow that instruction. If the Committee departed from the instruction so given they ought to have given very strong reasons. Nothing more is given than this in Madras. Reddi stands for Reddi and Kamma stands for Kamma. What do we find? Who stands for the Congress? A Reddi stands and gets support in the recent elections. Sometimes Congress Kamma is returned and sometimes a Justice Kamma (laughter) is returned. Now one can easily see that the reasons given are not correct. I do not attribute any partiality to members who constituted the Committee, not even to Mr. Venkatasubba Rao. What I say is that it is very likely people have got their preconceived notions. It is not necessary that they should have special motives in pressing their own views. People have got preconceived notions and they think their views are correct; especially in old age, they think that their views are correct. Whatever people may say, they cannot accept any views opposed to those rooted in their minds for a long time. That being so, Mr. Venkatasubba Rao who is away from the people altogether because judges ought not to go on mixing with the people, is no exception."

Mr. C. Ramalinga Reddi :—" Is it not more an attack on a member of the Hammond Committee? "

* Sriman M. G. Patnaik Mahasayo :—" It is not at all an attack please. I am simply saying that even judges have got their own failings and they are not anything more than human. I do not say he was partial. I do not say he was corrupt. However eminent a man may be, he is only a human being. Is there anything wrong in it? "

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*The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—" It is the report of the Committee and not that of an individual member. He may attack the Committee and not an individual member thereof."

Mr. C. BASU DEV:—" On a point of order, if any reference to members of the Committee is out of order, may I ask, Mr. President, whether any words of appreciation of any particular member are in order? "

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—" It is not a point of order."

* Sriman M. G. PATNAIK Mahasayo:—" With regard to Mr. Justice Venkatasubba Rao they say that he is a gentleman who knows all about the Presidency and therefore his opinion is entitled to very great weight. I say it is very necessary for me to show he is also liable to err in answering the point taken up by the other side."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—" I am only sorry that the hon. Gentleman has not got out of the groove."

* Sriman M. G. PATNAIK Mahasayo:—" I am replying to what they said. I am not saying anything by way of reply to you. They said that Mr. Venkatasubba Rao is on the Committee and he must have influenced the decision of the Committee and therefore the decision is entitled to great weight. How is that argument to be answered? Even Mr. Venkatasubba Rao is a human being." (Laughter.)

Mr. T. S. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—" Will all this information be sent to the Secretary of State? "

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—" This as well as all other information that obtains in this House."

(An hon. Member: 'That is why they wanted to send extracts.')

* Sriman M. G. PATNAIK Mahasayo:—" One has therefore to take into consideration the facts on which the conclusion of the Committee is based. Reddi does not stand for a Reddi and a Kamma does not stand for a Kamma; because they are divided into two main parties, the Congress and the Justice party. On that ground it may be shown that the authors are wrong in supposing that the people of Madras are too communalistic. Supposing they are communalistic we do not want to encourage it. We must see that the constitution is so framed that all communities are drawn together to select a person who will serve the interests of all. Except in the case of appointments these communal questions ought not to arise at all because our interests are identical. Therefore the communal Government Order has nothing to do with the elections. Some people are wrong in referring to it. It is only for securing appointments for different communities who have not had sufficient representation to rise to the level of others in proportion to their population, the communal Government Order is passed. If this opinion is correct, then everyone should condemn the report of the committee. It has already been admitted that in small constituencies people will have opportunities for coming into contact with electors. That cannot be denied. If the constituency is too large and is represented by two or three people, then they find it difficult to speak to the constituency. If

only one man represents, close contact will be possible. There is no doubt about that. Single-member constituencies may be condemned on grounds of corruption. But that is not one of the grounds on which the Committee's report is based.

15 m. "Even if you have multi-member constituencies, there may be corruption. So, we need not take that question into consideration. On his amendment, Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar speaks of distributive vote. If the first proposition is carried, his amendment has no place. Therefore, I do not support his amendment."

* Mr. C. RAMALINGA REDDI:—" Mr. President, we have had a large number of amendments tabled to the general recommendations of the Hammond Committee, and Mr. Bracken gave us in very brief and clear language the salient points on which the attention of this Council had to be concentrated. I understand from his speech that the Local Government or the particular party with which he is best acquainted do not propose to join issue with the Committee in respect of their proposals regarding representation of labour and also their proposals in regard to the representation of the universities in the new constitution. They accept the main part of the changes made by the Hammond Committee, or at any rate do not think them to be so important as to necessitate a request for reconsideration with the backing of those gentlemen who support them in this Council. The difference seems to refer only to one most important particular, whether we should have single-member or multi-member constituencies as the norm in the near future, and if the latter, namely, multi-member constituencies, what should be the type of voting that should be allowed. I take it—I hope my Hon. Friend Mr. Bracken will correct me if I am wrong—that the Local Government are not going to ask the Rt. Hon'ble the Secretary of State to revise the Hammond Committee's recommendation in respect of universities and labour representation. Very well. He nods assent. They are going to ask him to revise the Committee's recommendations with respect to the relative proportions that are to be accorded to single-member and multi-member constituencies. I suppose I am right in this inference that they are going to ask him to reopen this question. I shall repeat it. I hope I am right in surmising that the Local Government will request the Secretary of State to reopen this question regarding the relative positions to be accorded to single-member and multi-member constituencies in this Presidency and that they would press on him the necessity for accepting the Madras Government's rcommendations in preference to those of the Hammond Committee. And, in order to gain support for this attitude of theirs, they come to this Council and ask for a specific vote. Now, Sir, with all humility I may submit that this is not a right attitude. For, they know this Council is composed of several parties. Will they make it clear to the Secretary of State that in our Presidency all the nationalists, all the congressmen and most of the liberals are in favour of the Hammond Committee's recommendations, and that the only people who in this respect demand revision of their proposals are the Government

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and the Justice Party. (Hear, hear.) Now, my hon. Friend has said this morning that the Government, namely, the reserved half and the officials, do not propose to take sides in this controversy. (Interruption.) I see I am not interpreting Mr. Bracken correctly. At any rate, may I put it to him that since in the new constitution there would not be a reserved half and there would not be official representation, it is not right on their part to interpose and try to determine the composition of the new Council, and that therefore they ought to make it clear that of all the popular parties only one is in favour of the proposal to have single-member constituencies as the norm, whereas all other parties are in the main supporters of multi-member constituencies? I am not asking Mr. Bracken to say anything but what is fair and obvious in the political situation. He will have therefore to say that there are two kinds of Opposition in this Council; there is the Council Opposition led by my friend, Dr. Subbarayan, and there is the Country Opposition to the Justice Party, which for the time being is under my leadership. Now, Sir, will he make it clear to His Majesty's Government that judged by any standards he pleases to adopt, the Justice Party has been losing ground consistently for the last two years, and that ever since the Congress marched into the Council field it has been capturing seat after seat and can lay claim, on the admission of my sporting friend, the Hon. the Raja of Bobbili, that it is the predominant organization in the country? Now, my Hon. Friend Mr. Bracken in bringing his proposals here rests his case on a technical ground. I do not know if I am right in saying this, but I suppose he is going to inform the Secretary of State for India that the Council, the people's representatives, have voted for the Madras Government scheme and therefore the Hammond Committee's proposals must be scrapped. Would he be right in saying so? (The Hon. Mr. G. T. H. Bracken: 'Yes.') Does he not know that the vast majority of the people to-day in our country, the largest number, are on the side of the Congress? For the time being, at any rate, though I do not suppose it would be a permanent feature or phenomenon, the Justice Party are under a shadow, are under an eclipse. If, therefore, Mr. Bracken is going to base his views on the support he is getting here, he must not content himself merely with the voting here in regard to the Council's views. He must in all fairness tell His Majesty's Government how the trend of popular forces is at the present time, and if he cannot read the lesson of all the recent elections, the consistent story they tell, I for one would feel very sorry for the guidance he is giving and for his statesmanship. He will kindly excuse my putting this in those terms. I certainly was not prepared for anything more than a general discussion on these proposals. I did not think that the Government were anxious to have this one item, namely, single- *versus* multi-member constituencies, this one item altered to the original basis. My hon. Friend is going to send extracts of our debate. I suppose. (Interruption.) Is he not going to send anything at all to the Secretary of State? He has been feeding us on extracts here. Will he not do the same by the Secretary of State? (Laughter.) Is he going to send

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only the texts of the resolutions without the amendments, merely the numerical strength behind these amendments here in this Council but without the real weight in the shape of popular opinion? If he is going to send anything at all, my request to him is, even if it costs something, to send the full text of our proceedings, or at any rate as much of it as possible. We do not want abridged accounts to be sent, which whether intentionally or not are bound to colour the proposals to be placed before the India Office.

" As regards the merits of the question, there is not much to be said. In my opinion, ultimately when our communal and sub-communal feelings are subsided, it would not matter what type of constituency we have. I think and I always hold that the larger the constituency the better for the political organization of the country. In the small constituency, while the influential man is surrounded by his relations, and also if he is a rich man is likely to have extensive monetary dealings, the results of the election are more likely to turn on personal rather than political factors. If you want to have political elections and if you want to put down non-political considerations in elections, the less there is of this so-called personal factor, the better. After all, why is the personal touch more important than the political reputation of a man? In these Councils we are not dealing with local subjects like roads and drains in the cities; we are dealing with larger issues, and do they require the personal visit by the candidate to every elector of every village and every street and every nook and corner of a district? Sir, I rather think that the ideal system of representation would be one in which the individual will not count much but only the political organization. To illustrate what I mean, if we could have two districts or three districts thrown together as one constituency and the people were asked to vote not for this candidate or for the other candidate, but for the Justice Party, or the Congress, or the Liberals, or the Moderates or whatever party organizations there are, and if afterwards we count the votes and divide the number of seats in proportion to the votes obtained by the different parties and leave it to the leaders to choose the members, we should have the cleanest and the best type of constituencies. Difference of opinion there must be on a proposal so revolutionary as this. But what I am trying to drive home is against this idea, that there should be a personal touch between the candidate and the elector, as though it is a question of nursing or domestic economy, instead of political factors, that ought in a large measure to be subordinated to higher considerations of giving all these elections a political colour. A single-member constituency may easily lead us to non-political elections. People will come in as Independents, and you know what Independents are. They are the bug-bear of our province. Then, if on the other hand, you have the cumulative vote, there is the danger of democracy functioning as in America only under
p.m. a strong caucus system. Votes have to be split up in such a way as to secure the return of all the candidates belonging to one party. How are you going to secure it? You must have a strong organization which

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will canvass vigorously; study the chances of success and then tell the voters, 'Give two to this man, one to this,' and so on. In other words a strong caucus system, a strong political organization, will prevail and the individual will be suppressed. I should like to steer clear of both these extremes, a non-political and personal election on the one side and the caucus domination on the other. The multiple constituency with the distributive vote comes nearest to the type of solution we ought to be after. I do not care whether under such a system for the present the Justice Party gains more seats or the Congress more seats. I think I know enough of these systems to say that no one party is going to be permanently installed on the Treasury Bench. In fact the party leaders themselves will get dissatisfied with sitting there for a long time and would be glad to exchange places in the cooler atmosphere on the bench I now sit. Well, that is the system I consider best.

"It has been said by one of my friends that in the cumulative system by plumping all your votes to one man you will do injustice to the other candidate. The same objection applies to the distributive vote. Under the distributive system too you can give one vote to one man and not give your other vote to the other man. But there is this psychological difference. Under the distributive system, say, you have three votes, you are anxious to get your man in and give him a single vote, but you don't exercise the other two. Human nature being what it is, there is an inner resistance; you feel you have lost two votes, you have wasted as it were your property, you have not enjoyed it; and this mental resistance goes a long way to help good leadership to stem the tide of single votes being cast in a distributive system; whereas under the cumulative system you suffer from no such compunction whatsoever. You have got three votes—that is the maximum, I believe, now provided—you plump all the three to one man, you exercise all your three votes, and in that way it will actually lead to accentuation of sub-communal feelings to a far greater degree than the distributive system of voting would ever involve. I therefore feel there is some real ground for the argument that this cumulative system will accentuate sub-communal feelings. My Hon. Friend Mr. Bracken said that conditions in Bombay were different from here. It may be so, but to some extent they are also similar. There has been a great deal of solicitude in India for the protection of minorities. In fact in the democracy as envisaged by the bureaucracy in India, to be in a majority is counted a sin, to be in minority a virtue which ought to be rewarded by every possible means. Now the Bombay system is for helping the minorities, not minorities in the sense of communities and sub-communities but in the sense of creeds like those of Jains and Parsis. My objection to the system recommended by the Hammond Committee is just this. They are right in holding that communal and sub-communal factors should be discouraged as much as possible. The cumulative system they recommended frustrates the very end they have in view. Above all, it does incalculable harm to the Poona Pact. You have three votes which could be cumulated in any way you please.

This will naturally lead the Harijans to vote for Harijans and castemen for castemen, and practically introduce the communal electorate. I should like to see this system modified so that one vote should be distributed; there should be an obligation on the caste people to vote at least for one Harijan candidate and on the Harijans to vote at least for one casteman. However these are amendments which I don't think it is wise to put forward at this stage. After long deliberation, after local committees had sat, after the local legislative councils had discussed, the Hammond Committee—they had any amount of data before them—came to certain conclusions. I was sorry at the tone of the remarks of Mr. Patnaik with reference to one most distinguished member of that Committee. All I can say is the splendid analysis of the facts governing the actual conditions in our country and all the rest of it, show that much thought was employed and much wisdom exhibited in arriving at the conclusions they did. It may be we cannot endorse every one of their proposals. No Committee has ever made proposals which enjoyed universal acceptance. It is because the subjects are of a highly controversial nature that these Committees are appointed and to expect them to produce proposals which would satisfy everybody is to talk the language of self-contradiction and absurdity. There is bound to be a controversial element in their recommendations because they themselves have been appointed as the subjects did not admit of easy and universally acceptable solutions and they have been asked to judge on their merits. I think it would be both sportsmanship and statesmanship if the Madras Government would, instead of trying to get their decisions reversed in this one particular only, about which they seem to be very keen, though in the rest of their proposals they are acquiescent even when they do not accept the findings of the Committee, allow these proposals to go forward, unsatisfactory as they may be, in this respect or that respect, to one party or another party, to this Council or outside; but in any case the case of the multiple constituency stands on a different footing from the case of particular modes of voting. I think the vast majority of people in this Presidency would vote for multiple constituencies as it is the only means of overcoming communalism in our practical politics. I trust that that particular proposal will not be sought to be replaced by the single-member constituency idea. If my Hon. Friend Mr. Bracken has any doubt as to the popular support, let him hold a plebiscite in the city of Madras, or anywhere else. It will not take long. I challenge him to hold a plebiscite anywhere. If on the other hand he wants to go behind what is obviously the will of the people on the strength, on the pretended strength of this Council as now constituted, I think he is taking a very unfortunate and a very unfair step. I appeal to him and to the Government to allow these proposals to remain as they are; let them operate for some time; if there is anything grievously wrong about them and if they in actual working result in too much weightage not justified by the number of votes obtained in favour of one party or another, I for one, even if it means disadvantage to the party that I happen to belong, would gladly join my friends opposite in getting them so

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altered as to result as far as possible in a proportionate advantage to all parties, proportionate to the number of votes they command or obtain in the country. I trust herefore that the Government and my friends opposite will fall in with this, which is the view of the majority of the people and majority of the parties in this Presidency and see that the labours of the Hammond Committee are not frustrated in this most important respect."

Diwan Bahadur A Appadurai Pillai:—"I move that the question be now put."

* Dr. P. Subbarayan:—"I am indeed thankful to you, Mr. President, for not having accepted the motion for closure of my hon. Friend the Justice Party Whip. I thought Mr. Appadurai Pillai has been long enough in this House to understand that even though I may lead a minority in this House I should have a chance of saying what I feel on the question on hand. I knew well, Mr. President, that my rights were safe in your hands, and I was not mistaken in my judgment.

"Mr. President, I think we are coming to the end of a very long and acrimonious discussion. My hon. Friend, the Member for Chittoor, has put my case stronger than I can put it myself. As I have said the Delimitation Committee was composed of members who had nothing to do with any particular party in this country, and had no party predilections to support. After considering the *pros* and *cons* of the methods of representation and delimitation put before them they have come to a certain conclusion in the interests of this Province where the problem even though it will not be the same as in Bombay has some resemblance to it. In Bombay they have minorities like the Parsis, Jains, Jews and several others. In this Province we are divided into particular classes belonging to the majority community, and by the single-member constituency system it will be very difficult for any candidate belonging to a respectable minority in the majority community to get elected to the legislature. On the other hand by the methods suggested by the Central Delimitation Committee, the multiple constituencies and the cumulative method of voting, it may be possible for some of the minority communities to obtain representation in the future legislative assembly.

"The second point I wish to make, Mr. President, is that after all, the constituency suggested by the Central Committee is not larger than what we are working with to-day, and the number of voters as analysed from the list of voters prepared by the Madras Government themselves, will not be much greater in the two- and three-member constituencies which the Committee has now suggested than in some of the constituencies under our limited franchise possessed to-day. So administratively, I do not think the working of the multi-member constituency would be more difficult than the working of the present constituencies. Again, Mr. President, I was glad to hear from my

Hon. Friend, the Finance Member, that the Government are not disputing the suggestions of the Committee with regard to representation of University, Labour and other similar constituencies. What they are most concerned with is the question of multiple and single-member constituencies. I would like to say one point on this. I approve of the recommendation of the Committee with regard to Labour that members belonging to psuedo-trade unions should not stand in the election by a labour constituency.

1-15 p.m. "They have made it a condition that in the trade union constituencies, honorary members of the trade unions may stand, but that only such members of the trade unions enfranchised could stand for the ordinary labour constituencies. I think, to that extent, they have done correctly, because I know there are many gentlemen in this Province who are trying to manufacture trade unions in order to get votes and thus get returned to the legislature through the door of the labour constituencies. I am glad the Committee, by their recommendations, have put an end to this kind of political log-rolling.

"Mr. President, I feel the Committee have carefully considered the question of this Province with regard to single- and multi-member constituencies. I am not convinced of my Hon. Friend the Finance Member's statement that the arguments they have given do not convince him. I feel on the other hand they have carefully considered the *pros* and *cons* of the arguments put forward before them both by the Provincial Committee—the minority in the Provincial Committee—and by the Provincial Government, and, fortunately or unfortunately for the minority, the Central Delimitation Committee seem to feel that the minority were in the right in this particular instance and the majority in the wrong. If they have come to that conclusion, I do not think they can be blamed. They were considering it as a judicial tribunal and not from the point of view as to whether this thing is good for this party or that party.

"Now, talking of parties themselves, as my hon. Friend from Chittoor pointed out, the only party that is in favour of the Government proposal is the Justice party; because, the liberals of Madras who were represented on the Committee by Sir Mocherla Ramachandra Rao strongly supported the recommendation of the minority. The Madras Mahajana Sabha which gave evidence by submitting a memorandum to the Delimitation Committee strongly supported multi-member constituencies. And now we know what the view of the Congress is, because my hon. Friend has stated in unmistakable terms that the Congress party also supports multi-member constituencies. though they were not represented on the Committee. So, it will be seen from this, Mr. President, that all parties in this Presidency, with the exception of the party in power, are in favour of the recommendations of the Hammond Committee. I hope therefore when my Hon. Friend, the Finance Member, sends the recommendations of this House he will do us the courtesy of telling the Right Honourable

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Gentleman the Secretary of State for India that all the parties in this Presidency who are represented in this House, with the exception of the party in power, are in favour of the Report of the Hammond Committee. (A voice: 'What about Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar?')."

* The Hon. Mr. G. T. H. BRACKEN:—" Mr. President, Sir, I do not propose to take up much of the time of the House in replying, as hon. Members have met the arguments on both sides. But just one or two points I must mention by way of explanation.

" The hon. the Leader of the Opposition found fault with the Government for attempting to sit in judgement on the Hammond Committee. If I am not mistaken, he himself asked for a debate on the Hammond Committee Report and when he now criticises us for that, I cannot quite follow his inconsistent argument.

" Sir, as regards the Hammond Committee report, this Government had no idea that the Hammond Committee were of the opinion that the majority of this House were in favour of multi-member constituencies. The matter was never discussed, and what appeared in the Hammond Committee report was a complete surprise to this Government.

" On the question of voting, it is true that there was no voting on the previous debate, because the Government had not made up their minds and wanted expressions of opinion from all sides of the House. Actually the Government knew pretty well, or thought they knew, what way the voting would go. To-day the position is somewhat different. The Hammond Committee have come to certain conclusions on the supposition, which this Government think is erroneous, that the majority of this House are in favour of multi-member constituencies. The Government may be wrong, but that will be known in a few minutes.

" The hon. Member from Chittoor raised the question—and he was supported by the Leader of the Opposition—that all parties except the party in power were in favour of multi-member constituencies. Well, I am not sure that that proposition is correct; but I did not know what were the views of the Congress party until the hon. Member from Chittoor announced them. Only recently I saw a report in the papers that Mr. Satyamurti—I believe he is a prominent member of the Congress party—strongly supported the system of single-member constituencies. So said some organ of the Congress party also. So I am left in some doubt as to whether the Congress party as a whole really supports multi-member constituencies. The same applies to other parties. Mr. Ranganatha Mudaliyar who is not a member of the Justice party has given some very convincing reasons in favour of single-member constituencies and, I think that probably other members of other parties also take the same view. But this is not really a party matter. It is a matter on which there are differences of opinion within parties, and I think we can only go by what the elected members of the people decide by their vote to-day."

The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I will put the amendment of Mr. Appadurai Pillai to the vote of the House. The question is:

'Add *the following at the end*:—

"*and, on further consideration this Council is of opinion (i) that the delimitation of general constituencies by the Hammond Committee is opposed to the terms of reference of His Majesty's Government which lay down that constituencies should generally be single-member except where plural or multi-member constituencies are absolutely necessary;*

(ii) that multi-member constituencies with cumulative voting will, instead of diminishing or eliminating communal strife, accentuate the same, while single-member constituencies are best suited to achieve the object the Committee has in view;

(iii) that the proposals of the Madras Delimitation Committee and the Local Government are best suited for working the constitution on party basis in this Province and for the proper and beneficial functioning of Provincial Autonomy;

(iv) that, to help the minorities, which is the object of the Hammond Committee, single non-transferable vote is preferable to the cumulative vote;

(v) that cumulative voting would generally lead to the spoiling of voting papers and wastage of votes, and that on this ground alone single non-transferable vote is preferable'."

The motion was put and declared carried.

Diwan Bahadur T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar demanded a poll and the House divided thus:—

Ayes.

1 The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar.
2 ,, Mr. P. T. Rajan.
3 ,, Raja of Bobbili.
4 Diwan Bahadur C. Natesa Mudaliyar.
5 Mrs. K. Alamelumangathayaramma.
6 Mr. R. Madanagopal Nayudu.
7 ,, T. Sundara Rao Nayudu.
8 Khan Sahib Syed Tajuddin Sahib Bahadur.
9 Mr. R. M. Palat.
10 ,, I. C. Iswaran Pillai.
11 Diwan Bahadur R. Srinivasan.
12 ,, A. Appadurai Pillai.
13 Mr. G. Ranganatha Mudaliyar.
14 Khan Bahadur Yahya Ali Sahib Bahadur.
15 Mr. M. Devadasan
16 Rao Sahib N. Sivaraj.
17 Mr. D. M. Reid.
18 The Zamindar of Kirlampudi.
19 Mr. P. C. Moses.
20 ,, P. V. Rajagopala Pillai.
21 ,, W. P. A. Soundara Pandiyan.
22 Rao Sahib V. Dharmalingam Pillai.
23 Rao Bahadur D. Krishnamurti.
24 Sriman M. G. Patnaik Mahasayo.
25 Khan Bahadur Mahmud Schamnad Sahib Bahadur.
26 Sri A. V. Bhanoji Rao.
27 The Zamindar of Bodinayakanur.
28 Mr. Daniel Thomas.
29 ,, G. Sriramulu.
30 ,, J. Kuppuswami Choudari.
31 ,, C. Indrayya.
32 Khan Bahadur T. M. Moidoo Sahib Bahadur.

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Ayes—cont.

33 Rao Sahib M. Vedachala Mudaliyar.
34 Rao Sahib C. Jayaram Nayudu.
35 Mr. S. A. A. Annamalai Chettiyar.
36 Rao Sahib Pandit Ganala Ramamurti.
37 Mr. A. Harischandrudu Nayudu.
38 ,, K. Kesavaramamurthi Nayudu.
39 ,, I. Sandana Gounder.
40 ,, A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar.
41 Rai Sahib C. Kolanda Reddi.
42 Raj Kumar M. A. Muthiah Chettiyar of Chettinad.
43 Mr. M. S. Sreshta.
44 ,, J. M. Smith.
45 ,, J. A. Davis.
46 ,, A. Ramakrishna Reddi.
47 ,, H. M. Jagannatham.
48 S. M. K. Beyabani Sahib Bahadur.
49 Diwan Bahadur M. Gopalaswami Mudaliyar.
50 Rao Bahadur Subadar-Major S. A. Nanjappa Bahadur.
51 Mr. C. Basu Dev.
52 Mahboob Ali Baig Sahib Bahadur.
53 Mr. N. Ranganatham.

Noes.

1 Dr. P. Subbarayan.
2 Yakub Hasan Sahib Bahadur.
3 Mr. K. R. Venkatarama Ayyar.
4 Diwan Bahadur T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar.
5 Mr. T. S. Ramaswami Ayyar.
6 ,, V. T. Arasu.
7 ,, A. B. Shetty.
8 B. Pocker Sahib Bahadur.
9 Mr. M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar.
10 A. M. Ahmed Meeran Sahib Bahadur.
11 K. P. V. S. Muhammad Meera Ravuttar.
12 Mr. K. P. Raman Menon.
13 Diwan Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar.
14 Mr. C. R. Parthasarathi Ayyangar.
15 ,, G. R. Premayya.
16 ,, K. Koti Reddi.
17 ,, P. M. Thangal.
18 ,, G. Rameswara Rao.
19 ,, V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar.
20 Rao Bahadur R. K. Venugopal Nayudu.
21 Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt.
22 ,, C. Ramalinga Reddi.
23 Mrs. A. Rukmani Lakshmipathi.
24 Rao Sahib V. I. Muniswami Pillai.

Ayes 53. *Noes* 24.

The motion was carried.

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—" The House will now pass on to the next amendment." 4-3 p.m.

Mr. T. S. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—" What about the other amendments on this subject? "

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—" They automatically go."

* Mr. M. S. SRESHTA:—" Sir, I am very hopeful after what has transpired, that once again it might be possible for the recommendation of the Hammond Committee to be amended. Although the decision of the Hammond Committee was considered as the last word on the subject, we have seen to-day that it is possible for this House to reopen a question which has been decided by the Hammond Committee.

" Sir, so far as the Indian Christian community is concerned, it has been very sore over the decision of the Hammond Committee. It has been felt that a large section of the Indian Christian community has not been heard sufficiently. I am sorry to find that the hon. Member who is in charge of this subject is leaving the House, but I trust that my arguments will not go unheard. It looks as if the

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Members of the Government concerned are not very much interested in the amendment I am proposing to move. My amendment runs as follows:—

'*Add* the following at the end:—

"*and on further consideration this Council is of opinion that the Indian Christian seats in the Madras Legislative Assembly should be assigned to selected areas, the Indian Christian voters in the remaining areas being included in the general electorate*".'

"Sir, we have heard considerable argument as to the necessity of members being in close touch with their constituencies. If that is so, I do not understand why the case of Indian Christians is considered different. So far as my constituency is concerned, even under the new constitution, the Indian Christian candidate standing for election will have to canvass in three districts, viz., South Kanara, Malabar and the Nilgiris. We may have to talk to people knowing three languages or even more. Those who have gone to South Kanara, Malabar or the Nilgiris will understand what the difficulties are with regard to transport in those places. Unfortunately Government have not paid sufficient regard to the transport question. In South Kanara with its rivers, there being at least ten rivers running from east to west, it is not possible for one to go about the districts except with great difficulty and it is not possible for a Member of the Legislative Council to meet and discuss matters and come in contact with as many constituents as possible. If the argument is that it is not necessary to be in personal touch with the voters, then I have nothing further to say. But the argument is that you must be in personal touch with everybody and that is the principle underlying all the recommendations of the various Committees. I cannot understand why a difference has been made in the case of the Indian Christian community alone. It seems to me that what they have been doing to the community is to discard any proposal which it may make. We recently had the case of the Italo-Ethiopion War where the weaker country Ethiopia has been ill-treated and we all felt that Italy should not be allowed to proceed in that destructive fashion against its weaker adversary. The same thing is being done in regard to the Indian Christian community. I am sorry I have to speak in strong terms on behalf of the Indian Christian community because that community has lost everywhere.

"Then, Sir, one thing in regard to the new constitution. The Muslims have succeeded in getting 3¼ times more than the representation of Indian Christians. I do not grudge the increased representation that they have. They are only double the population of Indian Christians and they get 3¼ times the representation of the Indian Christians. I ask why is it that the grievance of the Muslims alone has been remedied and that of the Indian Christians has not been remedied. I can only say that the Government are either lacking in their sympathy to the Indian Christian community who are always

loyal to the Government and who are always ready to place their services at the disposal of the Government, or that the community is not claiming its right in the way in which it ought to do. I have been dealing with this subject for many years and I have also brought this subject before this House many a time perhaps to the annoyance of hon. Members of this House. So I cannot but say what I have to say on this subject and it is necessary to say fully now because this is my swan song and I may not have another opportunity of again speaking on this subject. So I would like to know why a difference is made in the case of the Indian Christian community alone and why it should not get the same rate of representation as the Muslims . . ."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—" I may remind the hon. Member that this amendment deals with delimitation of the constituency and not with representation according to population."

* Mr. M. S. SRESHTA:—" I am glad that my attention has been drawn to this fact. But I may say that I was coming to the point that the qualified recommendation originally made seemed to give an opportunity of redressing our grievances in this way, viz., that if the nine seats which were allotted to the Indian Christians were assigned to selected areas, the rest of the Indian community would be merged in the general electorate. I may also say in this connexion that when I made this suggestion in the Committee it was thrown overboard and those of us who were hoping that we would get some redress failed to get any redress at all. If at least eight seats had been assigned to selected areas we had an opportunity of voting in the general electorate in the other areas. Of course we might not have had that additional seat, but we would have gained some influence and we would have been compensated for the loss of seats by the gain we would have had in influencing the election for the general seats. When the question was being discussed by the Hammond Committee I made a request that I might be called in to give my evidence and although it was well known that I had always been espousing this cause, I was not given an opportunity of giving my evidence, but I was given the curt reply that the Committee would find no time to hear me. I may say that much injustice has been done to the Indian Christian community by not giving me an opportunity to have my say before the Committee. I have always been speaking upon this matter and I should have been given a chance of speaking about this before the Hammond Committee. While my hon. Friend, Mr. Appadurai Pillai, who is on the other side was given an opportunity of speaking I was not given . . ."

* Diwan Bahadur A. APPADURAI PILLAI:—" A word of explanation, Sir. I was not allowed to speak before the Hammond Committee. Mr. Arumainatham Pillai was examined by that Committee. There was no partiality shown to the hon. Member, Mr. Sreshta. On the other hand the Government took particular care not to give room for any such complaint. The doughty champion of that cause Mr. Arumainatham Pillai, was examined as a witness and he was given 45 minutes' time or very nearly an hour.

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* Mr. M. S. SRESHTA:—"I am sorry I could not hear my hon. Friend. I am not charging anybody with partiality. I only say that this is a blunder which is costing our community much. Well, Sir, the Hammond Committee says that the previous Committees had decided in that way and that if my suggestion was put through, it would be equivalent to excluding certain areas and it could not be said that those excluded areas were unsuitable. That is a point on which I would have liked to argue before the Hammond Committee. Then the question arises as to what is meant by unsuitability. The word 'unsuitable,' must be defined having regard to the test of surrounding circumstances. The object of having these seats distributed in the manner in which it was proposed was for the purpose of seeing that as much representation was given to the community as possible. With regard to the objection that the exclusion of certain areas would amount to saying that those areas are unsuitable, I think this point should have been argued and so far as I can see it has not been argued as fully as it might have been. You will see that in a great many other respects this question should have been discussed and even now I hope that Government which keep an open mind in these matters will see the justice of what I say and redress the grievance caused to our community.

"Another point which I should like to point out is that the Government might rest assured that a large part of the Indian Christian community is in favour of my amendment. Meetings have been held all over the Presidency supporting this motion and a great many of the leaders of the Indian Christian community have supported this amendment; and in spite of all this, I fail to understand why the Hammond Committee should have come to the conclusion they have arrived at.

15 n. "Sir, this Council has viewed very sympathetically all that I have said till now on this question. When during the last three years I brought forward a motion on two different occasions to the effect that the number of seats allotted to Indian Christians should be increased, the motion was passed unanimously by this House, it having been supported by the hon. Members of the Depressed Classes, by my Mussalman friends and also by my Hindu friends. No one opposed the motion. Sir, this Council has always been sympathetic and generous with regard to the claims of minorities. Later on, when the question of delimitation of constituencies came before the House an important resolution was moved by a member of the Congress Party to the effect that there should be eight selected areas for eight Indian Christian constituencies and that the Indian Christian voters in the remaining areas should be merged in the general electorate. Sir, it has been pointed out by my hon. Friend, Mr. C. R. Reddi that the view of the Congress Party is the view of the people. If that is so, it might be safely inferred that the view put forward in the resolution of Mrs. Lakshmipathi to the effect that there should be eight selected areas and that the rest of the Indian Christian voters should be merged in the general electorate, a view which has also been supported by the bulk of the *inteligentsia* of the Indian Christian community, is the

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view of the people as a whole. Therefore I do not understand what difficulty the Government feel in view of this general opinion. I think, Sir, that the case has not been fully considered by the Hammond Committee. Even now, if the demand made in this House is forwarded to the right quarter, I think a favourable decision might be arrived at. I hope the Hon. Member opposite has at least heard the later part of my arguments though not the earlier part, during which time he was not in the House."

* The Hon. Mr. G. T. H. BRACKEN:—"On a point of personal explanation, Mr. President. I was out of the Chamber only for a minute; even then I was standing in the doorway from where I heard very well what the hon. Member said."

* Mr. M. S. SRESHTA:—"Sir, the acoustic properties of this Chamber are notorious; we cannot hear each other even while we are in the Chamber. Anyhow I am glad to hear that the Hon. Member was able to hear me even from the doorway."

The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I think the hon. Member would require a seconder for whom some time should be left."

Mr. M. S. SRESHTA:—"I shall finish my remarks and then the seconder may begin.

"Sir, I am sorry I am labouring under certain difficulties, but I am sure that the good sense of the Council will assert itself and my demand will meet with favourable consideration by this Honourable House. I have no doubt that other hon. Members will have something to say in favour of my proposal. I shall conclude with the remark that now that it is found that the decision of the Hammond Committee is not the last word on the subject, I hope that the request of the Indian Christian community voiced through me will receive the sympathetic consideration of this House and of the Government. Sir, if later on it is found that it is not possible to assign these seats to eight selected areas and to merge the other Indian Christian voters in the general electorate, the only other alternative is to support the resolution which was passed twice in this Council to the effect that the grievance of the Indian Christian community must be satisfied by increasing the number of seats assigned to them. One of two things has to be done: either the number of seats should be increased or the selected areas scheme should be adopted.

"Sir, it might be asked: How can you exclude certain areas? But this principle of exclusion of certain areas has been adopted as regards the women's seats. As regards the municipalities also, there is a selection of areas. That being the case, is the principle of selection of particular areas to be considered objectionable only in the case of the Indian Christian community, especially when the bulk of the intelligentsia of that community is in favour of it? It may be that the majority of Indian Christian members in this House are not in favour of this principle, but we have got to consider what the Indian Christian

members elected under the new constitution will want. I therefore think, Sir, that the difficulty that seems to stand in the way of granting the request of the Indian Christian community would not be found insurmountable. In any case the arguments in favour of my suggestion are very strong and I trust that they will receive the fullest consideration of this House in the first instance and later on of the Madras Government."

Mr. T. S. Ramaswami Ayyar:—" Sir, I have great pleasure in seconding the amendment moved by my hon. Friend Mr. Sreshta. There is certainly a good point in what he says. He asks, when the Government insist on the adoption of the principle of the Member being in close touch with his electors in the case of the general electorate, why should not the same principle be applied in the case of Indian Christian candidates; why should they alone be asked each to represent three big districts like Malabar, South Kanara and Nilgiris, each district having its own problems and having its own language? What is good for one community ought to be good for another community also. Sir, we are told again and again that single-member constituencies are the best and should be preferred because they will enable candidates to be in touch with the electorate. For the same reason, Mr. Sreshta is right in asking that in the case of Indian Christians also the principle adumbrated as regards the other communities should be adopted and constituencies should be so formed as to enable the candidate to be in touch with the electors. Wherever Indian Christians predominate in a district they should be allowed to elect a candidate. Indian Christians in other districts where they are very few should be merged in the general electorate. Sir, Mr. Sreshta said, 'I cannot understand why there should be one law for the strong and another law for the weak.' I sympathize with him. I feel that he has been weak in this matter. If I remember aright on the last occasion when the report of the Delimitation Committee was discussed, I moved a resolution to the effect that multi-member constituencies should be formed as far as possible and Mr. Sreshta seconded my motion. But to-day he has been forcibly taken away as it were, into the Government lobby. I think his weakness has made him lose the privileges of his community. I sympathize with him in the difficult position he has placed himself in; all the same the claim of the Indian Christian community to be placed on a par with the other communities, whatever the delimitation proposals may be, is very fair. What applies to one community should equally apply to another. The Government should not penalize Indian Christians alone with big constituencies when they are providing small constituencies for other communities. If the general constituencies require the constant attention of the candidates, Indian Christian constituencies also require the constant attention of the candidates."

* Diwan Bahadur A. Appadurai Pillai:—" Mr. President, Sir, I feel very sorry I am forced to oppose this motion moved by my

hon. Friend Mr. Sreshta. I thought the question of territorial constituencies for Indian Christians was a foregone conclusion. The Subcommittee of the Delimitation Committee, the main Delimitation Committee and the Local Government on two occasions after a consideration of all the aspects of the case came to the conclusion that territorial grouping was the best in the circumstances of the case. In the first place, Mr. Sreshta's proposal to have eight selected districts for the eight seats and to ask the Indian Christian voters in the remaining areas to go to the general electorate is opposed to law. For paragraph 5 of the Fifth Schedule to the Government of India Act, 1935, says:—

'A Province, exclusive of any portion thereof which His Majesty in Council may deem unsuitable for inclusion in any constituency or in any constituency of any particular class, shall be divided into territorial constituencies.'

Sir, that direction is mandatory. I do not think that his Majesty's Government or for the matter of that any authority would consider that any portion of the presidency would be unsuitable for inclusion in an Indian Christian constituency. One would have to think twice before saying that any portion of the province is unsuitable for the purpose of Indian Christian representation. Splitting a minority community into two branches and asking one branch to function in a separate electorate and another in a joint electorate, is, to say the least of it, unfair. I am also tempted to say, Sir, that those who put forward this proposal of selected districts are moved more or less by selfish interests. It is said that when constituencies become large, it will not be easy for the candidates to go about and canvass votes. But should we not look rather to the rights of the voters than to the convenience of the candidates? Sir, what would the Indian Christian voters in the excluded areas of eighteen districts say to the proposal of putting them in the general electorate? Would they be prepared to go to the general electorate giving up their own separate electorate? It does not lie in the mouth of Mr. Sreshta alone to come to this Council and say that the generality of Indian Christians consider that their interests would be better served if a section of them operated through a separate electorate and another section through the general electorate. For the matter of that a number of deputations waited upon the Provincial Delimitation Committee and the Hammond Committee. The Hammond Committee was impartial in arranging for the examination of two Indian Christian witnesses one of whom supported the territorial grouping of all the districts for the eight seats allotted to Indian Christians and the other supported the proposal put forward by my hon. Friend Mr. Sreshta. Mr. Arumainathan Pillai is a B.A., B.L., and an ex-M.L.C. He has been taking part in the proceedings throughout with reference to this matter. He was called upon by the Chairman of the Indian Christian Sub-Committee, Mr. Daniel Thomas, to express his opinion and he did so. The Provincial Delimitation Committee examined him as a witness. The Hammond Committee also examined him as a witness. After all this, it is not up to Mr. Sreshta to say that all these Committees have gone wrong. The Second Report of the

Provincial Delimitation Committee which went very carefully into this question after examining a number of witnesses on behalf of the selected districts scheme says:—

'Neither the representations nor the deputation have succeeded in convincing the Committee that there is any valid reason for the exclusion of any part of the Presidency as unsuitable to form part of a Christian constituency. The argument put forward, viz., the political value of familiarizing at least some of the Christian community with the practice of voting in a joint electorate with Hindus, the extensive areas of some of the constituencies and the consequent impossibility of contact between the candidate and many of his electors, are arguments rather against the formation of separate constituencies than against the suitability of any particular district for inclusion in a constituency. The Committee therefore adheres to its original recommendation that the whole Presidency may be divided into eight constituencies for the election of representatives of Indian Christians.' (Page 6).

The view has been accepted both by the Local Government and by the Hammond Committee."

The House then adjourned to meet again at 11 a.m. the next day.

V.—PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE OF THE HOUSE.

[a] 1. *List of posts on Rs.* 500 *per mensem and above created during the quarter ending* 31*st December* 1935.

* 2. *Appropriation accounts of the Government of Madras for* 1934–35 *and the Audit Report*, 1936, *and the Auditor-General's letter No.* 32—*Rep.*/114/35, *dated* 22*nd February* 1936, *containing his comments thereon.*

[b] 3. *G.O. No.* 1774, *Development, dated* 16*th December* 1935, *ordering the publication of amendment to rule* 12 *of Election Rules framed under the Madras Commercial Crops Markets Act*, 1933.

[c] 4. *G.O. No.* 1801, *Development, dated* 20*th December* 1935, *ordering the publication of amendment to rule* 52 *under section* 18 *of the Madras Commercial Crops Markets Act*, 1933.

D. K. V. RAGHAVA VARMA,
Acting Secretary to the Legislative Council.

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* Laid on the Table on the 28th February 1932.

[a] Printed as Appendix VI at pages 91–92 infra.

[b] Printed as Appendix VII at page 92 infra.

[c] Printed as Appendix VIII at pages 93–94 infra.

APPENDIX I.

[Vide answer to question No. 883 asked by Mr. A. B. Shetty at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 11th March 1936, page 13 supra.]

The following statement shows the number of boarders in hostels maintained by Government and aided agencies (subsidized by Government) for the depressed classes together with the cost of maintenance during 1932–33, 1933–34 and 1934–35.

Name of the hostel.	1932–33.		1933–34.		1934–35.	
	Number of boarders.	Cost of maintenance.	Number of boarders.	Cost of maintenance.	Number of boarders.	Cost of maintenance.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
		RS. A. P.		RS. A. P.		RS. A. P.
I. Hostels maintained by Government—						
1 The Paddison Hostel, Madras.	55	12,486 10 11	55	12,401 15 4	45	11,037 3 1
2 The Slater Hostel, Perambur.	Varied from 40 to 60	7,638 8 2	Varied from 35 to 60	7,912 10 8	Varied from 58 to 42	6,795 6 4
3 The Government Depressed Classes' Hostel, Calicut.	20	2,051 10 10	20	2,056 13 4	20	2,072 8 11
4 The Sundaracharlu Hostel, Salem.	30	2,985 4 0	30	3,006 6 10	30	2,599 15 8
5 Government Depressed Classes Hostel, Masulipatam.	58	8,040 1 10	60	7,489 14 4	60	6,980 8 8
6 Kallar Boarding Home (Boarding School), Tanjore.	..	..	135	7,500 0 0	..	..
7 Kallar Boarding Home, Usilampatti.	238	.. (7 and 8)	223	12,000 0 0 (7 and 8)	217	10,400 0 0 (7 and 8)
8 Kallar Boarding Home, Uthamapalaiyam.	40		40		40	
		Grant.		Grant.		Grant.
		RS. A. P.		RS. A. P.		RS. A. P.
II. Hostels maintained by aided agencies—						
1 The Free Boarding Home at Atmakur.	..	2,100 7 0	..	1,984 6 4	..	1,984 0 0
2 The Madras Seva Sadan.	10	1,500 0 0	10	1,342 0 0	10	1,500 0 0
3 The Depressed Classes Mission, Mangalore.	40	4,080 0 0	40	4,080 0 0	40	4,080 0 0
4 The Moir Hostel for Boys, Chidambaram.	62	4,000 0 0	58	3,744 5 0	50 (actual varied from 52 to 56).	4,000 0 0
5 The Gray Hostel for Girls, Chidambaram.	52	2,400 0 0	50	3,570 13 0	50	3,997 4 0
6 Panchama Girls' Hostel, Bellary.	..	..	..	..	18	400 0 0
7 Boarding Home for Koravar Boys, Atur, Salem.	..	..	36	3,240 0 0	36	3,218 0 0
8 Boarding Home for Koravar Girls, Atur, Salem.	..	..	25	2,340 0 0	27	2,072 0 0

APPENDIX II.

[Vide answer to question No. 888 asked by Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 11th March 1936, page 16 supra.]

G.O. Ms. No. 4531, L. & M., dated 4th November 1935.

READ—the following:—

From the President of the Salem District Board, Roc. No. 10813, dated 8th June and 17th October 1935.

Order—Ms. No. 4531, *L. & M., dated 4th November* 1935.

The Government sanction the grant of the difference between the pay actually drawn on 31st October 1934 by the secondary school teachers referred to in the statement submitted by the President and the maximum of the revised scales of pay as personal pay to them with effect from 1st November 1934, except in the case of pandits about whom the President proposes to take action separately.

(By order of the Government, Ministry of Local Self-Government)

T. B. RUSSELL,
Secretary to Government.

To the President of the Salem District Board.
,, Examiner of Local Fund Accounts.

APPENDIX III.

[Vide answer to question No. 889 asked by Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 11th March 1936, page 17 supra.]

G.O. Ms. No. 697, L. & M., dated 20th February 1936.

READ—the following papers:—

From the President of the Salem District Board, No. 2699/35, dated 14th and 31st October 1935.

From the Director of Public Instruction, No. 3948/B-35, dated 6th January 1936.

Order—Ms. No. 697, *L. & M., dated 20th February* 1936.

The Government pass the following orders on the question of pay of the six teachers referred to by the President, District Board, Salem:—

(1) Messrs. R. Subba Rao and M. S. Ardanari may be allowed to draw the excess over the maximum of the revised scale, as personal pay.

(2) S. Chintamani Ammal is drawing a pay which is within the scale prescribed for trained teachers of her grade and the question of personal pay does not arise in her case.

(3) In regard to T. Henry her pay should be fixed at Rs. 29 plus Re. 1 personal pay since there is no stage of Rs. 30 in the scale of pay of Rs. 25—1/2—29—2/2—35 admissible to women teachers under G.O. No. 5096, L. & M., dated 7th December 1933.

(4) The two other women teachers, viz., M. Varadammal and M. Angammal are permanent Government servants who were transferred to local board service along with the Government girls' schools. Had they continued in Government service they would have drawn in 1934 pay at Rs. 44 and Rs. 39 respectively as against Rs. 43 and Rs. 34 respectively drawn by them under the board.

The pay of Varadammal should therefore be fixed at Rs. 35 plus Rs. 8 personal pay and that of Angammal at Rs. 25 plus Rs. 9 personal pay.

(By order of the Government, Ministry of Local Self-Government)

T. B. RUSSELL,
Secretary to Government.

To the President of the Salem District Board.
,, the Director of Public Instruction.

APPENDIX IV.

[Vide answer to question No. 891 asked by Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 11th March 1936, page 19 supra.]

(1)

List of Production Societies.

1 Katheru Weavers' Co-operative Society (East Godavari district).
2 Guntur Weavers' Co-operative Society (Guntur district).
3 Ekkadu Weavers' Co-operative Society (Chingleput district).
4 Kesavanallathur Weavers' Co-operative Society (Chingleput district).
5 Rosenagaram Weavers' Co-operative Society (Chingleput district).
6 Iyangarkulam Weavers' Co-operative Society (Chingleput district).
7 Pillaipalayam Weavers' Co-operative Society (Chingleput district).
8 Kavundapadi Weavers' Co-operative Society (Coimbatore district).
9 Kurnool Weavers' Co-operative Society (Kurnool district).
10 Pedana Weavers' Co-operative Society (Kistna district).
11 Minnel Weavers' Co-operative Society (North Arcot district).
12 Guruvarajapet Weavers' Co-operative Society (North Arcot district).

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(2)

List of Affiliated Societies.

1 The Ramasastri Spinners and Weavers Co-operative Society, Gudlavalleru, Kistna district.

2 The Salem Weavers' Co-operative Society, Salem.

3 The Coimbatore Davanga Weavers' Co-operative Society, Coimbatore.

4 The Devikapuram Kasba Co-operative Society, Devikapuram, North Arcot district.

5 The Tanur Weavers' Co-operative Society, Tanur, South Malabar.

6 The Pantalayini Weavers' Co-operative Society, Pantalayini, Malabar district.

7 The Madura Sourashtra Co-operative Bank, Madura.

8 The Takkolam Weavers' Co-operative Society, Takkolam, Arkonam taluk, North Arcot district.

9 The Pallikonda Weavers' Co-operative Society, Pallikonda, North Arcot district.

10 The Adoni Swakula Sali Co-operative Purchase and Sale Society, Adoni, Bellary district.

11 The Karimpuzha Weavers' Co-operative Society, Karimpuzha post, via Cherpulcheri, Malabar district.

12 The Karukkupettai Weavers' Co-operative Society, Karukkupettai, near Conjeeveram.

13 The Madura Weavers' Co-operative Society, Madura.

14 Dharmavaram Weavers' Co-operative Society, Dharmavaram, Anantapur district.

15 The Hospet Weavers' Co-operative Society, Hospet, Bellary district.

16 Koyampalli Weavers' Co-operative Society, Melpalayam post, Karur taluk, Trichinopoly district.

17 Peddapuram Weavers' Co-operative Society, Peddapuram, East Godavari district.

18 The Ayyampet Sri Venkatesa Perumal Co-operative Society.

19 The Palayapettai Weavers' Co-operative Society.

APPENDIX V.

[Vide item IV on page 22 supra.]

LAW (LEGISLATIVE—ELECTIONS) DEPARTMENT.

MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

General constituencies as recommended by the Indian Delimitation Committee and as proposed by the Madras Government shown in parallel columns.

Name of district.	As recommended by the Indian Delimitation Committee. Name of constituency. (1)	Extent of constituency and area in square miles. (2)	Number of seats. (3)	As proposed by the Madras Government. Name of constituency. (1)	Extent of constituency and area in square miles. (2)	Number of seats. (3).
			I. Urban.			
	Madras City North ..	Divisions 1 to 16 of the City of Madras as defined in Notification No. 866, dated the 24th September 1919, and published on page 462 of Part I-A of *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated the 30th September 1919, but including Fort St. George (11·2).	3	Madras City North ..	Divisions 1 to 4, 9, 10 and 12 of the City of Madras as defined in Notification No. 866, dated 24th September 1919, and published on page 462 of Part I-A of *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated the 30th September 1919 (5·9).	1
				Madras City North Central.	Divisions 5 to 8, 11 and 13 to 16 as defined in the above notification, etc., but including Fort St. George (5·3).	1
	Madras City South ..	Divisions 17 to 30 of the City of Madras as defined in Notification No. 866, dated the 24th September 1919, and published in *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated the 30th September 1919 (17·8).	3 *	Madras City South Central.	Divisions 17 to 23 as defined in above notification, etc. (7·3).	2 *
				Madras City South ..	Divisions 24 to 30 as defined in above notification, etc., (10·5).	1
	Vizagapatam town ..	The municipality of Vizagapatam (6)...	1	Vizagapatam town ..	The municipality of Vizagapatam (6). ..	1
	Cocanada town ..	The municipality of Cocanada (7·8) ..	1	Cocanada town ..	The municipality of Cocanada (7·8) ..	1
	Bezwada *cum* Masulipatam towns.	The municipalities of Bezwada and Masulipatam (14·7).	1	Bezwada *cum* Masulipatam towns.	The municipalities of Bezwada and Masulipatam (14·7).	1
	Guntur *cum* Tenali towns.	The municipalities of Guntur and Tenali (7·1).	1	Guntur *cum* Tenali towns.	The municipalities of Guntur and Tenali (7·1).	1
	Tanjore *cum* Kumbakonam towns.	The municipalities of Tanjore and Kumbakonam (12·1).	1	Tanjore *cum* Kumbakonam towns.	The municipalities of Tanjore and Kumbakonam (12·1).	1
	Trichinopoly *cum* Srirangam towns.	The municipalities of Trichinopoly and Srirangam (13·1).	1	Trichinopoly *cum* Srirangam towns.	The municipalities of Trichinopoly and Srirangam (13·1).	1
	Madura town ..	The municipality of Madura (8).	1	Madura town ..	The municipality of Madura (8)	1
	Tinnevelly *cum* Palamcottah towns.	The municipalities of Tinnevelly and Palamcottah (5·5).	1	Tinnevelly *cum* Palamcottah towns.	The municipalities of Tinnevelly and Palamcottah (5·5).	1
	Coimbatore town ..	The municipality of Coimbatore (7·5)..	1	Coimbatore town ..	The municipality of Coimbatore (7·5) ..	1
	Salem town	The municipality of Salem (4·3) ..	1	Salem town	The municipality of Salem (4·3) ..	1

II. Rural.

Name of district.	As recommended by the Indian Delimitation Committee. Name of constituency. (1)	Extent of constituency and area in square miles. (2)	Number of seats. (3)	As proposed by the Madras Government. Name of constituency. (1)	Extent of constituency and area in square miles. (2)	Number of seats. (3)
Vizagapatam	1 Chicacole	Chicacole division (1,933)	3 *	1 Tekkali	Ichapur and Tekkali taluks (597)	1
	2 Parvatipur	Parvatipur division (2,418)	2	2 Chicacole	Chicacole, Narasannapeta and Patapatnam taluks (899).	2
	3 Vizianagram	Vizianagram division (1,577)	3*	3 Bobbili	Salur, Bobbili and Parvatipur taluks (1,386).	1
	4 Narasapatam	Narasapatam division (2,794)	2	4 Palakonda	Palakonda taluk (502)	1
	5 Vizagapatam	Vizagapatam division excluding the municipality of Vizagapatam (605).	1	5 Vizianagram	Vizianagram division (1,577)	2
				6 Sarvasiddhi	Sarvasiddhi, Golgonda and Gudem taluks (2,277)	1
				7 Viravalli	Viravalli taluk (517).	1
				8 Vizagapatam	Vizagapatam division excluding the municipality of Vizagapatam (599).	1
East Godavari	1 Rajahmundry	Rajahmundry and Bhadrachalam divisions (3,429).	2	1 Rajahmundry	Rajahmundry and Bhadrachalam divisions (3,429).	2
	2 Amalapuram	Amalapuram division (624)	2 *	2 Amalapuram	Amalapuram division (624).	2 *
	3 Cocanada	Cocanada and Peddapuram divisions excluding the municipality of Cocanada (2,143).	2	3 Cocanada	Cocanada and Peddapuram divisions excluding the municipality of Cocanada (2,148).	2 *
West Godavari.	1 Ellore	Ellore and Kovvur divisions (1,257)	2 *	1 Ellore	Ellore and Kovvur divisions (1,264)	2*
	2 Narsapur	Bhimavaram and Narsapur divisions (1,103).	2	2 Bhimavaram	Bhimavaram division (625)	1
				3 Narsapur	Narsapur division (478)	1
Kistna	1 Bandar	Bandar and Gudivada divisions excluding the municipality of Masulipatam (1,413).	2 *	1 Bandar	Bandar and Gudivada divisions excluding the municipality of Masulipatam (1,413).	2 *
	2 Bezwada	Nuzvid and Bezwada divisions excluding the municipality of Bezwada (2,111).	2	2 Bezwada	Nuzvid and Bezwada divisions excluding the municipality of Bezwada (2,111).	2
Guntur	1 Guntur	Guntur and Narasaraopet divisions excluding the municipality of Guntur (3,615).	2	1 Guntur	Guntur division excluding the municipality of Guntur (1,214).	1
	2 Tenali	Tenali and Ongole divisions excluding the municipality of Tenali (2,120).	3 *	2 Narasaraopet	Narasaraopet division (2,401)	1
				3 Tenali	Tenali division excluding the municipality of Tenali (640).	1
				4 Ongole	Ongole division (1,480)	2 *
Nellore	1 Nellore	Gudur and Nellore divisions (3,188)	2	1 Gudur	Gudur division (2,044)	2 *
	2 Kavali	Kavali and Kandukur divisions (4,760).	3	2 Nellore	Nellore division (1,144).	1
				3 Kavali	Kavali division (1,804)	1
				4 Kandukur	Kandukur division (2,956)	1
Cuddapah	1 Rajampet	Rajampet division (2,396)	1	1 Rajampet	Rajampet division (2,396)	1 *
	2 Cuddapah	Jammalamadugu and Cuddapah divisions (3,519).	2 *	2 Cuddapah	Jammalamadugu and Cuddapah divisions (3,519).	2 *
Anantapur	1 Penukonda	Penukonda division (2,707)	2	1 Penukonda	Penukonda division (2,707)	2 *
	2 Anantapur	Gooty and Anantapur divisions (4,011).	2 *	2 Gooty	Gooty division (1,537)	1
				3 Anantapur	Anantapur division (2,474)	1

Bellary	1 Bellary	Bellary and Adoni divisions (3,136)	2 *	1 Bellary	Bellary and Adoni divisions (3,316)	2 *
	2 Hospet	Hospet division (2,598)	1	2 Hospet	Hospet division (2,598)	1
Kurnool	1 Kurnool	Kurnool and Dhone divisions (3,512)	2 *	1 Kurnool	Kurnool and Dhone divisions (3,512)	2 *
	2 Nandyal	Nandyal and Markapur divisions (4,068).	1	2 Nandyal	Nandyal and Markapur divisions (4,068)	1
Chittoor	1 Chandragiri	Chandragiri division (2,127)	2	1 Chandragiri	Chandragiri and Kalahasti taluks (1,184)	1
	2 Chittoor	Madanapalle and Chittoor divisions (3,887).	3 *	2 Tiruttani	Tiruttani and Puttur taluks (943)	2 *
				3 Madanapalle	Madanapalle division (2,316)	1
				4 Chittoor	Chittoor division (1,571)	1
Chingleput	1 Chingleput	Chingleput division (1,378)	3 *	1 Conjeeveram	Conjeeveram taluk (412)	1
	2 Saidapet	Saidapet and Tiruvallur divisions (1,693).	3 *	2 Chingleput	Chingleput and Madurantakam taluks (966).	2
				3 Saidapet	Saidapet division (555)	1
				4 Tiruvallur	Tiruvallur division (1,138)	2 *
North Arcot	1 Vellore	Tiruppattur and Vellore divisions (1,632).	3 *	1 Tirupattur (N.A.)	Tirupattur taluk (539)	1
	2 Ranipet	Ranipet and Cheyyar divisions (1,382).	3 *	2 Gudiyattam	Gudiyattam taluk (481)	1
				3 Vellore	Vellore division (612)	1
				4 Ranipet	Ranipet division (714)	2 *
	3 Tiruvannamalai	Tiruvannamalai division (1,578).	2	5 Cheyyar	Cheyyar division (668)	1
				6 Tiruvannamalai	Tiruvannamalai division (1,573)	2 *
South Arcot	1 Tindivanam	Tindivanam division (1,312)	3 *	1 Tindivanam	Tindivanam and Gingee taluks (945)	2 *
	2 Chidambaram	Chidambaram division (980)	2 *	2 Villupuram	Villupuram taluk (867)	1
	3 Cuddalore	Cuddalore and Tirukkoyilur divisions (1,904).	3	3 Chidambaram	Chidambaram division (980)	2 *
				4 Cuddalore	Cuddalore division (446)	1
				5 Tirukkoyilur	Tirukkoyilur division (1,458).	2 *
Tanjore	1 Tanjore	Tanjore and Pattukkottai divisions excluding the municipality of Tanjore (1,520).	2 1	1 Tanjore	Tanjore and Pattukkottai divisions excluding the municipality of Tanjore (1,520).	2 *
	2 Kumbakonam	Kumbakonam and Mayavaram divisions excluding the municipality of Kumbakonam (895).	2 *	2 Kumbakonam	Kumbakonam division excluding the municipality of Kumbakonam (441).	1
	3 Negapatam	Mannargudi and Negapatam divisions (1,329).	3 *	3 Mayavaram	Mayavaram division (454)	1
				4 Mannargudi	Mannargudi division (798)	2 *
				5 Negapatam	Negapatam division (531)	1
Trichinopoly	1 Trichinopoly	Trichinopoly and Karur divisions excluding the municipalities of Trichinopoly and Srirangam (1,852).	2 *	1 Trichinopoly	Trichinopoly and Karur divisions excluding the municipalities of Trichinopoly and Srirangam (1,852).	2
	2 Musiri	Musiri division (1,036)	1	2 Musiri	Musiri division (1,036)	1
	3 Ariyalur	Ariyalur division (1,426)	2	3 Ariyalur	Ariyalur division (1,426)	2*
Madura	1 Dindigul	Dindigul division (2,316)	3 *	1 Dindigul	Dindigul taluk (893)	1
	2 Usilampatti	Usilampatti division (1,858)	2	2 Palni	Kodaikanal, Palni and Nilakkottai taluks (1,428).	2 *
	3 Melur	Melur division excluding the municipality of Madura (751).	1	3 Periakulam	Periyakulam taluk (1,121)	1
				4 Tirumangalam	Tirumangalam taluk (737)	1
				5 Melur	Melur division excluding the municipality of Madura (751).	1
Ramnad	1 Sivakasi	Sivakasi division (1,498)	3 *	1 Srivilliputtur	Srivilliputtur taluk (449)	1
	2 Ramnad	Ramnad division (1,420)	1	2 Sattur	Sattur and Aruppukkottai taluks (1,044).	2*
	3 Devakottai	Devakottai division (1,908).	2	3 Ramnad	Ramnad division (1,420)	1
				4 Tiruppattur (R)	Tiruppattur taluk (600)	1
				5 Sivaganga	Sivaganga and Tiruvadanai taluks (1,308.)	1

* One seat reserved for scheduled caste.

Name of district.	As recommended by the Indian Delimitation Committee. Name of constituency. (1)	Extent of constituency and area in square miles. (2)	Number of seats. (3)	As proposed by the Madras Government. Name of constituency. (1)	Extent of constituency and area in square miles. (2)	Number of seats. (3)
			II. Rural—cont.			
Tinnevelly ..	1 Tinnevelly ..	Shermadevi and Tinnevelly divisions excluding the municipalities of Tinnevelly and Palamcottah (1,922).	2	1 Tuticorin ..	Tuticorin division (684) ..	1
				2 Koilpatti ..	Koilpatti division (1,719) ..	2*
	2 Tuticorin ..	Tuticorin and Koilpatti divisions (2,408).	3 *	3 Shermadevi ..	Shermadevi division (1,192) ..	1
				4 Tinnevelly ..	Tinnevelly division excluding the municipalities of Tinnevelly and Palamcottah (730).	1
Coimbatore ..	1 Pollachi ..	Pollachi division (1,845) ..	2	1 Pollachi ..	Pollachi and Udamalpet taluks (1,258) ..	2 *
	2 Erode ..	Erode division (1,454) ..	2	2 Palladam ..	Palladam taluk (587) ..	1
				3 Erode ..	Erode taluk (600) ..	1
	3 Coimbatore	Gobichettipalaiyam, Kollegal and Coimbatore divisions excluding the municipality of Coimbatore (3,858).	3 *	4 Dharapuram ..	Dharapuram taluk (854) ..	1
				5 Gobichettipalayam.	Gobichettipalayam and Kollegal divisions (2,824).	2
				6 Coimbatore ..	Coimbatore division excluding the municipality of Coimbatore (1,034).	1
The Nilgiris ..	The Nilgiris ..	The Nilgiris district (982) ..	1	The Nilgiris ..	The Nilgiris district (982) ..	1
Salem ..	1 Hosur ..	Hosur and Dharmapuri divisions (3,676).	2	1 Hosur ..	Hosur division (1,869) ..	1
				2 Dharmapuri ..	Dharmapuri division (1,807) ..	1
	2 Sankari ..	Sankari division (1,206) ..	2	3 Tiruchengode ..	Tiruchengode taluk (604) ..	1
	3 Salem ..	Namakkal and Salem divisions excluding the municipality of Salem (2,176).	3 *	4 Omalur ..	Omalur taluk (602) ..	1
				5 Namakkal ..	Namakkal division (972) ..	2 *
				6 Salem ..	Salem division excluding the municipality of Salem (1,204).	1
South Kanara ..	1 Coondapoor	Coondapoor division (1,605) ..	2 *	1 Coondapoor ..	Coondapoor division (1,605) ..	2 *
	2 Mangalore	Puttur and Mangalore divisions (2,417).	2	2 Puttur ..	Puttur division (2,006) ..	1
				3 Mangalore ..	Mangalore division (411) ..	1
Malabar ..	1 Tellicherry	Tellicherry division (1,990) ..	2	1 Chirakkal ..	Chirakkal taluk (689) ..	1
	2 Malappuram	Malappuram division (1,844) ..	2	2 Kottayam ..	Kottayam and Wynad taluks (1,301) ..	1
	3 Calicut	Calicut division (884) ..	2	3 Malappuram ..	Malappuram division (1,844) ..	2 *
				4 Calicut ..	Calicut taluk (379) ..	1
	4 Palghat	Palghat and Cochin divisions (1,070) ..	2 *	5 Kurumbranad ..	Kurumbranad taluk (505) ..	1
				6 Palghat ..	Palghat taluk (643) ..	1
				7 Ponnani ..	Ponnani taluk and Cochin division (427).	1

* One seat reserved for scheduled castes.

10th March 1936.

G. T. BOAG,
Secretary to Government.

APPENDIX VI.

[Vide item V on page 82 supra.]

FINANCE DEPARTMENT.

LIST OF POSTS ON Rs. 500 PER MENSEM AND ABOVE CREATED DURING THE QUARTER ENDING 31ST DECEMBER 1935.

Department and designation of the post.	Pay per mensem.	Period of tenure.	Remarks.
	(a) PERMANENT.		
	Nil.		
	(b) TEMPORARY.		
	(i) *Extension of previous sanctions.*		
	RS.		
Public (Special) Department—			
Deputy Secretary to Government, Public Department.	Pay in the senior time-scale of the Indian Civil Service (subject to a maximum of Rs. 2,000 per mensem) plus special pay of Rs. 200 per mensem.	Up to 31st March 1936.	M.R.Ry. Rao Sahib P. Appu Nair Avargal continues to hold the post.
Joint Secretary to Government, Local Self-Government Department.	Pay and special pay as for Junior Secretaries to Government.	Do.	M.R.Ry. Rao Bahadur R. Subbayya Nayudu Garu continues to hold the post.
Additional Sessions Judge, West Tanjore.	Pay in the regular line.	From 1st November to 23rd November 1935.	Mr. L. C. Horwill, I.C.S., held the post.
Additional Sessions Judge, Coimbatore.	Do.	For one year from 24th December 1935.	....
Law Department—			
Additional District Munsif, Chittoor.	I.C.S. cadre ..	Six months from 14th December 1935.	....
Additional Sub-Judge, Guntur.	650	Up to the commencement of summer recess for 1936.	....
Additional Sub-Judge, Vizagapatam.	650	For one year from 16th December 1935.	....
Local Self-Government Department—			
Special Engineer for Road Development.	1,750—100—2,150 (Superintending Engineer's scale) up to 5th December 1935 and Rs. 700—100—1,000 plus Rs. 100 special pay plus Madras house allowance (if any) thereafter.	Up to 31st March 1936.	Mr. A. Vipan held the post from 1st October to 5th December 1935 and Mr. R. A. Pereira is holding it from 6th December 1935.
	(ii) *Posts newly created.*		
Public (Special) Department—			
Additional District and Sessions Judge, Ramnad.	Pay in the regular line.	Three months from 20th November 1935.	....
Additional District and Sessions Judge, Madura.	Do.	Three months from 3rd January 1936.	....
Officer in the Chief Secretariat for the preparation of the Presidency Administration Report.	Pay in the regular line plus Madras house allowance.	From 28th October 1935 to 27th January 1936.	....
Temporary Additional Joint Registrar of Co-operative Societies.	Pay in the senior time-scale of the Indian Civil Service plus Madras house allowance.	One year from 30th November 1935.	Mr. G. H. Cook, I.C.S., holds the post.

Department and designation of the post.	Pay per mensem.	Period of tenure.	Remarks.
	(b) TEMPORARY—*cont.*		
	(ii) *Posts newly created*—cont.		
	RS.		
Law Department— Additional Sub-Judge, Trichinopoly.	650	Up to the commencement of the summer vacation for 1936.	....
Finance Department— Assistant Secretary to Government, Finance Department.	500—50—800	For six months from 1st October 1935.	Post created in connection with the preparation of Budget Estimates for 1936-37.

APPENDIX VII.

[Vide item V (3) at page 82 supra.]

G.O. No. 1774, Development, dated 16th December 1935.

The Superintendent, Government Press, is requested to publish the following notification in the *Fort St. George Gazette*:—

NOTIFICATION.

In exercise of the powers conferred by clause (*i*) of sub-section (2) of section 18 of the Madras Commercial Crops Markets Act, 1933 (Madras Act XX of 1933), the Governor acting with Ministers is hereby pleased to make the following amendment to the rules published with Development Department Notification No. 230, dated the 15th May 1935, at pages 906 to 910 of Part I of the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated the 18th June 1935, the same having been previously published as required by clause (*a*) of sub-section (4) of section 18 of the said Act.

AMENDMENT.

For the proviso to rule 12 of the said rules, the following proviso shall be substituted, namely:—

"Provided that in the case of elections by persons who have been granted licences under section 4 of the Act, the poll shall be taken by an officer (hereinafter called the polling officer) deputed by the Returning Officer either—

(*a*) at the headquarters of the Returning Officer; or

(*b*) at the office of the Market Committee; or

(*c*) at any other place fixed by the Returning Officer."

(By order of the Government, Ministry of Public Works)

C. A. HENDERSON,
Secretary to Government.

To the Superintendent, Government Press.
,, Director of Agriculture.
,, Director of Industries.
,, Registrar of Co-operative Societies.
,, Board of Revenue.
,, Collectors of Coimbatore, Tinnevelly, Bellary and South Arcot.
,, Government of India, Department of Industries and Labour (with C.L.).
,, Secretary, Indian Central Cotton Committee (with C.L.).
,, Law (Drafting) Department.
,, Examiner of Local Fund Accounts.

APPENDIX VIII.

[Vide item V (4) at page 82 supra.]

G.O. No. 1801, Development, dated 20th December 1935.

READ—the following papers:—

I

G.O. No. 1502, Development, dated 29th October 1935.

II

Official Memorandum No. 5227-III/357, *Development, dated* 6*th December* 1935.

[*Reference.*—G.O. No. 1502, Development, dated 29th October 1935. The Madras Commercial Crops Markets Act, 1933—Draft amendment to rule 52.]

The Director of Agriculture is requested to state whether any objections or suggestions relating to the draft amendment to rule 52 of the rules issued under section 18 of the Madras Commercial Crops Markets Act, 1933, and published as Notification No. 369 at page 1475 of Part I of the *Fort St. George Gazette,* dated 5th November 1935, have been received by him, and if so he is requested to forward them to Government with his remarks thereon at an early date.

(By order)

R. RAMASWAMI AYYANGAR,
Assistant Secretary to Government.

To the Director of Agriculture.

III

Letter from M.R.Ry. Rao Bahadur D. ANANDA RAO Garu, B.SC., Director of Agriculture, to the Secretary to Government, Development Department, dated Madras, the 10th December 1935, D. Dis. No. C. 400/35.

[*Reference.*—Development Department Memorandum No. 5227-III/35-1, dated the 6th December 1935.]

No objections or suggestions relating to the draft amendment to rule 52 published in G.O. No. 1502, Development, dated the 29th October 1935, have so far been received.

[11th March 1936

Order—No. 1801, *Development, dated* 20*th December* 1935.

The Superintendent, Government Press, is requested to publish the following notification in the *Fort St. George Gazette*:—

NOTIFICATION.

In exercise of the powers conferred by section 18 of the Madras Commercial Crops Markets Act, 1933 (Madras Act XX of 1933), the Governor acting with Ministers is hereby pleased to make the following amendment to the Madras Commercial Crops Markets Rules, 1935, published with Development Department Notification No. 144, dated the 13th March 1935, at pages 589 to 594 of Part I of the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated the 9th April 1935, the same having been previously published as required by clause (*a*) of sub-section (4) of the said section 18:—

RULE.

After rule 52 of the said rules, the following rule shall be inserted, namely:—

"52-A. A fee calculated at the rate of one per cent on the estimated cost of the work (subject to a minimum of Rs. 5) shall be levied in respect of the grant of technical sanction under rule 52. If the sanction is granted by the officers of the Public Works Department, the fee shall be credited to the provincial funds; in other cases, the fee shall be credited to the funds of the district board or of the municipality by which the officer granting sanction is employed."

(By order of the Government, Ministry of Public Works)

C. A. HENDERSON,
Secretary to Government.

To the Superintendent, Government Press.
,, Director of Agriculture.
,, Director of Industries.
,, Registrar of Co-operative Societies.
,, Board of Revenue.
,, Collectors of Coimbatore, Tinnevelly, Bellary and South Arcot.
,, Secretary, Imperial Council of Agricultural Research (with C.L.).
,, Secretary, Indian Central Cotton Committee (with C.L.).
,, Government of India, Department of Industries and Labour (with C.L.).

Copy to the Local Self-Government Department.
,, Public Works and Labour Department.
,, Law (Drafting) Department.

THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF THE GOVERNOR OF MADRAS.

Thursday, the 12th March 1936.

The House met at eleven of the clock, Mr. President (the Hon. Mr. B. Ramachandra Reddi) in the Chair.

PRESENT:

Reddi Nayudu, *Kt.*, The Hon. Rai Bahadur Sir K. V.
Pannirselvam, The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T.
Souter, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., I.C.S., The Hon. Sir Charles.
Bracken, C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S., The Hon. Mr. G. T. H.
Raja of Bobbili, The Hon. the.
Rajan, The Hon. Mr. P. T.
Kumaraswami Reddiyar, The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S.
Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur.
Ahmed Meeran Sahib Bahadur, A. M.
Alagannan Chettiyar, Rao Sahib A. S.
Alamelumangathayaramma, Mrs. K.
Annamalai Chettiyar, Mr. S. A. A.
Appadurai Pillai, Diwan Bahadur A.
Arasu, Mr. V. T.
Basheer Ahmed Sayeed Sahib Bahadur.
Basu Dev, Mr. C.
Beyabani Sahib Bahadur, S. M. K.
Bhanoji Rao, Sri A. V.
Boag, C.I.E., I.C.S., Mr. G. T.
Dalavoi, Mr. R.
Davis, Mr. J. A.
Devadasan, Mr. M.
Dharmalingam Pillai, Rao Sahib V.
Gopalaswami Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur M.
Harischandrudu Nayudu, Mr. A.
Halasyam Ayyar, Mr. N.
ndrayya, Mr. C.
swaran Pillai, Mr. I. C.
Jagannatham, Mr. H. M.
Jayaram Nayudu, Rao Sahib C.
Jones, I.C.S., Mr. C. E.
Kesavaramamurti Nayudu, Mr. K
Kolanda Reddi, Rai Sahib C.
Koti Reddi, Mr. K.
Krishnayya Choudari, Mr. P. V.
Krishnamurti, Rao Bahadur D.
Kumararaja of Venkatagiri, The.
Kuppuswami Choudari, Mr. J.
Maharaja of Parlakimedi, The.
Mahboob Ali Baig Sahib Bahadur.
Manikkavelu Nayakar, Mr. M. A.
Moidoo Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur T. M.
Moses, Mr. P. C.
Muhammad Meera Ravuttar, Mr. K. P. V. S.
Muniswami Pillai, Rao Sahib V. I.
Muthiah Chettiyar of Chettinad, Raj Kumar M. A.
Nachiyappa Gounder, Mr. K. A.
Nanjappa Bahadur, Rao Bahadur Subadar-Major S. A.
Narasa Reddi, Mr. T.
Narayanan Nambiyar, Mr. V. P.
Natesa Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur C.
Obi Reddi, Mr. C.
Palat, Mr. R. M.
Parthasarathi Ayyangar, Mr. C. R.
Patnaik Mahasayo, Mr. M. G.
Patro, K.C.I.E., Rao Bahadur Sir A. P.
Peddi Raju, Mr. P.
Pocker Sahib Bahadur, B.
Premayya, Mr. G. R.
Rajagopala Pillai, Mr. P. V.
Ramakrishna Reddi, Mr. A.
Ramalingam Chettiyar, Diwan Bahadur T. A.
Ramalinga Reddi, Mr. C.
Ramamurti, Rao Sahib Pandit Ganala.
Raman Menon, Mr. K. P.
Ramaswami Ayyar, Mr. T. S.
Rameswara Rao, Mr. G.
Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. A.
Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. G.
Ranganatham, Mr. N.
Ratnasabhapathi Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur C. S.
Reid, Mr. D. M.
Rukmani Lakshmipathi, Mrs. A.
Russell, I.C.S., Mr. T. B.
Sandana Gounder, Mr. I.
Schamnad Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur Mahmud.
Scott Brown, I.C.S., Mr. W.
Shetty, Mr. A. B.
Siva Raj, Rao Sahib N.
Smith, Mr. J. M.
Soundara Pandian, Mr. W. P. A.
Sreshta, Mr. M. S.
Srinivasan, Diwan Bahadur R.
Sriramulu, Mr. G.
Subbarayan, Dr. P.

PRESENT—*cont.*

Subrahmanya Bhatt, Mr. U. C.
Sundara Rao Nayudu, Mr. T.
Syed Tajuddin Sahib Bahadur, Khan Sahib.
Thangal, Mr. P. M.
Thomas, Mr. Daniel.
Uzielli, C.I.E., I.C.S., Mr. H. R.
Vasudeva Pillai, Mr. V. G.
Vedachala Mudaliyar, Rao Sahib M.
Venkatarama Ayyar, Mr. K. R.
Venugopal Nayudu, Rao Bahadur R. K.
Wright, *Kt.*, Sir William.
Yahya Ali Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur.
Yakub Hasan Sahib Bahadur.
Zamindar of Bodinayakkanur, The.
Zamindar of Kirlampudi, The.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS

Education

Subjects dropped from the course of instruction in the Victoria College, Palghat, as a measure of retrenchment.

* 893 *Q.*—Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) what the subjects were which were being taught in the College department of the Victoria College, Palghat, which have been stopped as a result of retrenchment proposals;

(*b*) whether the Government or the Director of Public Instruction received any representations to re-open classes in the said subjects in the said College; if so, what action the Government have taken on the same; and

(*c*) whether it is a fact that the Principal of the Victoria College reported that, with a comparatively small expenditure, the said classes could be re-opened; if so, whether the Hon. the Minister will be pleased to place a copy of the same on the table of the House?

A.—(*a*) (i) Philosophy; and
(ii) Mathematics main and Physics subsidiary of the B.A. degree course.

(*b*) Proposals for the revival of item (ii) above were received but could not be sanctioned on financial grounds.

(*c*) It is understood that the Principal made a report to the Director of Public Instruction that classes in group I-A—Mathematics main and Physics subsidiary—could be opened at a comparatively small cost, provided B.Sc. classes involving in turn substantial additional expenditure were opened.

The communication on this subject from the Principal cannot be placed on the table of the House.

Mr. K. P. Raman Menon:—" May I know when these branches were abolished? "

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar:—" Two or three years ago."

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Mr. K. P. RAMAN MENON:—" May I ask how many prospective students were there, when the classes were abolished?"

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" I cannot say that."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—" May I know what amount of money would be required to open these classes?"

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" Notice."

Transfers of trained teachers' certificates under rule 138 *of the Madras Educational Rules, since* 1930.

* 894 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many cases of transfers of trained teachers' certificates under rule 138 of the Madras Educational Rules, from one grade to another, that is, from lower elementary grade to higher elementary grade and from higher elementary grade to secondary grade and from secondary grade to L.T. in each of the years since 1930 have been made;

(*b*) whether any orders have been issued prescribing any special minimum qualifications for such transfers of certificates, since the beginning of 1930;

(*c*) if so, under what authority such an order or orders have been issued and whether a copy of the same will be placed on the table; and

(*d*) how many cases have been turned down in each of those years since 1930 and on what grounds?

A.—(*a*) There is no provision in the Madras Educational Rules for the conversion of secondary grade teachers' certificates into those of the Collegiate teachers' certificates. Information required in respect of the other kinds of certificates is given in the appended statement.[a]

(*b*) *&* (*c*) Attention is invited to rule 138 of the Madras Educational Rules. In addition, the rules specified in Appendix II have been prescribed by the Commissioner for Government Examinations for the conversion of teachers' certificates of the Higher Elementary grade into those of the Secondary grade.

(*d*) The Government have no information.

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—" May I ask the Hon. Minister whether he will be pleased to call for the information, with reference to clause (*d*) so that the Government may consider whether any action is necessary to rectify the defects, if any?"

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" I do not think it will serve any useful purpose; however I shall consider the question."

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[a] Printed as Appendix I on page 178 infra.

Medical Administration

Alleged insufficiency of accommodation in the Government Mental Hospital, Madras.

* 895 *Q.*—Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) the sanctioned accommodation in the Government Mental Hospital at Madras and the daily average population therein during the last three years;

(*b*) whether the Superintendent of the Mental Hospital and the Surgeon-General have at any time brought to the notice of Government that there is overcrowding in the hospital;

(*c*) if so, how often and when; and

(*d*) whether such overcrowding has affected the health of the patients?

A.—(*a*) The sanctioned accommodation is for 744 patients. The daily average population for each of the three years 1932, 1933 and 1934 is as shown below:—

1932	1,156·32
1933	1,214·55
1934	1,213·34

(*b*) *to* (*d*) The Surgeon-General has several times brought to the notice of the Government that there is overcrowding in the hospital and he has also stated that such overcrowding is likely to affect the health of the patients. The question of increasing the accommodation in the hospital is engaging the attention of Government.

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed:—" In spite of the Surgeon-General bringing to the notice of the Government that overcrowding in the Mental Hospital was detrimental to the health of the patients, may I know why no action has been taken till now? "

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar:—" The hon. Member is not right in thinking that no action has been taken by the Government. Estimates have been called for and received. The plans and estimates are under consideration."

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed:—" May I ask at what stage the matter is and how long it will take for the Government to improve the accommodation in the hospital? "

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar:—" The matter is under consideration."

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan:—" If the Hon. Minister admits that this hospital requires improvement, may I know why the Government have taken 11 years to consider this question? "

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The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" I may state for the information of the hon. Member, if he does not know it before, that there are other schemes which are equally urgent and which have been pending for a longer time than this scheme."

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR:—" May I know the number of patients that have been staying in the hospital for 5 years and more and for 10 years and more? "

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" Notice."

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—" Will the Hon. Minister be pleased to state how many more years it will take to give effect to the recommendation of the Surgeon-General? "

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" I have already answered that question."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" The Government have made provision for only 744 patients in the hospital. But over 1,000 patients are accommodated there."

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" That would seem to follow from the answer given."

Proposals for the provision of increased accommodation in the Government Mental Hospital, Madras.

* 896 *Q.*—Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) what steps the Government have taken so far to prevent overcrowding in the Mental Hospital at Madras;

(*b*) what are the proposals pending before the Government in the matter of providing increased accommodation in the Mental Hospital; and

(*c*) how long these schemes for improvement have been pending and at what stage they are now?

A.—(*a*) With a view to relieve overcrowding patients other than criminal insanes from the districts of Madura, Ramnad, Salem and Tinnevelly and also from Coorg are admitted in the Mental Hospital at Calicut.

(*b*) & (*c*) Schemes for the improvement of the hospital have been under consideration since 1925, but owing to financial stringency none could be carried out. In June 1935 the Government have approved a scheme of extensions to the hospital at an estimated cost of Rs. 2,17,200. Approximate plans and estimates for this scheme have been submitted to the Government for administrative approval and they are being examined.

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed:—" May I ask whether the Hon. Minister will visit that hospital and find out what exactly is the condition with regard to accommodation, drainage and sanitation?"

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar:—" I know there was a reference in this Council sometime back about people being only visitors to that hospital without being inmates. If my visit will help anybody, I have no objection to do so."

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed:—" Will the Hon. Minister be pleased to state what steps the Government will take to expedite the matter?"

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar:—" That is a question which my hon. Friend may address to the Hon. the Finance Member."

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed:—" May I ask whether any supplementary demand will be moved in this Council for the improvement of this hospital?"

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar:—" It is too early to answer that question."

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan:—" Am I to understand that, in spite of the Hon. Minister taking up this question seriously with the Hon. the Finance Member, the latter is not agreeing to the proposal?"

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar:—" I am not prepared to disclose what is happening between us."

Measures for bringing the Government Mental Hospital, Madras, to conform to up-to-date requirements.

* 897 *Q.*—Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Mental Hospital at Madras is not up-to-date in its requirements;

(*b*) whether the Surgeon-General has suggested any proposals to make the hospital up-to-date; and

(*c*) what steps the Government propose to take to make the hospital efficient and up-to-date?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) & (*c*) On the recommendation of the Surgeon-General the Government have approved a scheme of extensions to the hospital at an estimated cost of Rs. 2,17,200. This is only part of a comprehensive scheme which is estimated to cost about Rs. 20 lakhs. The partial scheme will be taken up for execution as soon as detailed plans and estimates are ready and funds are provided.

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed:—" May I ask whether the Hon. the Finance Member will co-operate with the Hon. Minister and release some funds as early as possible for the improvement of this hospital?"

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Measures for improving the drainage system of the Government Mental Hospital, Madras.

* 898 *Q.*—Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Surgeon-General has at any time reported upon the unsatisfactory condition of the drainage system in the Mental Hospital at Madras; and

(*b*) what steps the Government propose to take to improve the drainage system in the said hospital?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The Surgeon-General has submitted a partial drainage scheme for the sanction of the Government. He has been asked to report, in consultation with the Sanitary Engineer, whether it will not be necessary to take up the main scheme for the improvement of the drainage and whether the partial scheme will fit in with the main scheme.

Number of S.S.L.C. and Intermediate students admitted into the Medical schools.

* 899 *Q.*—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Public Health be pleased to state the number of passed S.S.L.C. and Intermediate students among those admitted to the Rayapuram Medical School, the Lady Willingdon Medical School and to the School of Indian Medicine last year?

A.—The information is furnished below:—

	Intermediate.	Secondary School-Leaving Certificate passed.
(1) Stanley Medical School	12	51
(2) Lady Willingdon Medical School for Women, Madras	3	20
(3) School of Indian Medicine	2	31

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—"May I know whether any preference is given to Intermediate passed students in the matter of admission to the Medical Schools?"

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"It is left to the Committee to make admissions; I believe they give preference to candidates who have passed the Intermediate Examination."

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—"May I ask whether there is any proposal to raise the educational qualifications for admission to the Medical schools in view of the fact that the course of training has been extended to five years?"

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"I do not think there is any such proposal, so far as I can recollect."

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Mr. A. B. SHETTY :—" Will the Hon. Minister be pleased to consider such a proposal? "

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR :—" I shall consider it."

Proposals for the improvement of the School of Indian Medicine and the Hospital attached thereto.

* 900 *Q.*—Rao Sahib V. DHARMALINGAM PILLAI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) the amount that has been provided for in the Budget Estimates for 1936–37 for—

(1) the Indian Medical School and the Indian Medical School Hospital,

(2) the other medical institutions in the Presidency;

(*b*) whether there are any proposals to improve the Indian Medical School and the Hospital attached to it;

(*c*) what the number of Gazetted officers proposed to be employed in the Indian Medical School and the Hospital is; and

(*d*) whether any representation has been made to Government for increase in the staff of officers and what action has been taken thereon?

A.—(*a*) (1) The following provision has been made in the Civil Budget Estimate for 1936–37:—

	RS.
Indian Medical School	79,600
Indian Medical School Hospital ...	62,200

(2) The required information will be found in the Civil Budget Estimate for 1936–37, a copy of which has been supplied to the hon. Member.

(*b*) There are at present no proposals with Government to improve the Indian Medical School and Hospital attached to it.

(*c*) The employment of two new gazetted officers in the school and the hospital was proposed, but the proposal was not accepted.

(*d*) The proposal to employ a woman Assistant Medical Officer in the hospital attached to the school is under the consideration of the Government and necessary provision has been made in the Civil Budget Estimate for 1936–37.

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED :—" Will the Hon. Minister be pleased to state whether he is aware that even this School of Indian Medicine as also the Hospital attached to it, are ill-provided with regard to accommodation and staff ? "

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The Hon. Diwan Bahadur KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR :—" I do not know if my hon. Friend will give preference to the Mental Hospital or to the Hospital attached to the Indian School of Medicine."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED :—" May I ask whether this hospital is not as important as any other hospital, whether the accommodation and staff for this hospital are not insufficient and whether he will take any steps to improve the hospital? "

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR :—" For the information of the hon. Member, I may state that there are at least 25 hospitals which are equally important and which are in urgent need of improvement with regard to accommodation as this hospital."

Mr. A. B. SHETTY :—" May I ask if the Hon. Minister is aware that the number of beds in the hospital attached to the Indian School of Medicine and the clinical material available are not sufficient for the number of students who are undergoing training in that school? "

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR :—" Notice."

Mr. S. M. K. BEYABANI SAHIB :—" May I just remind the Hon. Minister that the Unani Section is not making very much progress because Muslim students are not coming forward to join the school as very few scholarships are given to them? "

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR :—" This has nothing to do with the present question; if my hon. Friend will put a separate question, I shall give the answer."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED :—" May I ask what steps the Government propose to take to increase the staff in the hospital and the school? "

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR :—" There are no proposals under consideration at present."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED :—" Will the Hon. Minister reconsider the proposal to appoint two gazetted officers? Will he revive this proposal which was not accepted, and see that it is accepted? "

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR :—" I may say for the information of hon. Members that the Finance Committee rejected the proposal."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED :—" Will the Hon. Minister re-open the question, place it before the Finance Committee and get the sanction of the Committee and this Council? "

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR :—" If my hon. Friend will convert the Finance Commitee, we shall consider the question."

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Agriculture

Shifting the headquarters of the Agricultural Demonstrator from Giddalore to Cumbum (Kurnool).

* 901 *Q.*—S. M. K. Beyabani Sahib Bahadur: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether Government have ordered the Agricultural Demonstrator to shift his headquarters to Cumbum (Kurnool) from Giddalore; and

(*b*) if the answer is in the negative, what arrangements have been made to utilize better the services of the Demonstrator for paddy and sugarcane cultivation under the Cumbum tank?

A.—(*a*) No. Giddalore is the taluk headquarters and is therefore more suitable as the headquarters of the Agricultural Demonstrator for general administrative purposes.

(*b*) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer given to clause (*b*) of question No. 409 answered at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on 22nd January 1935.

Cumbum is one of the centres of work allotted to the Agricultural Demonstrator at Giddalore.

S. M. K. Beyabani Sahib Bahadur:—" May I ask whether the Hon. Minister will see that the headquarters is shifted to Cumbum? "

The Hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan:—" All the attention that is necessary for the cultivation of paddy and other crops is being given by the Demonstrator; I do not see any reason why the headquarters should be changed."

Proposal for opening a dairy-farm in the Nallamalai forest, Kurnool.

* 902 *Q.*—S. M. K. Beyabani Sahib Bahadur: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) the names of centres (i) where Government have opened dairy-farms and (*ii*) where breeding bulls are supplied; and

(*b*) whether there is any proposal before Government to open a dairy-farm at a suitable place in the Nallamalai forest in the Kurnool district?

A.—(*a*) (i) The Hosur Cattle and Dairy Farm, and the Agricultural College Dairy Farm.

(ii) Breeding bulls are stationed at certain veterinary institutions and also at the Madras Veterinary College.

(*b*) No.

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Local Self-Government

Outturn of work of the late Mr. Foulkes as Special Officer, Local Self-Government Department.

* 903 *Q.*—A. M. Ahmed Meeran Sahib Bahadur: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) the purpose for which the late Mr. Foulkes was appointed special officer; what the terms of reference were and what his outturn of work was;

(*b*) whether he considered the question of the bifurcation of the district boards; if so, with what result; and

(*c*) whether his post was prematurely terminated; if so, why?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) A copy [a] of G.O. No. 1046, L. & M., dated the 3rd March 1934, and a short note explaining the work done by the special officer are placed on the table.

(*c*) The post was terminated shortly after the six months for which he was originally appointed had expired.

Progress of the elections to the twelve district boards due for completion during the current year.

* 904 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) at what stage the elections for each of the twelve district boards of North Arcot, Bellary, South Kanara, Trichinopoly, Anantapur, Tinnevelly, South Arcot, Cuddapah, Chittoor, Kurnool, West Godavari and Guntur, for which elections are to be completed before the end of this year, i.e., 1935, as per Madras Act No. XIII of 1935 are;

(*b*) in which of these district boards, the Government hope or propose to bring the newly elected boards into existence on or about the 1st November 1935, and what are the district boards they propose to allow to continue till the end of the year 1935;

(*c*) which of these twelve districts have been, or are proposed to be bifurcated before the coming elections; and

(*d*) whether there are any proposals to bifurcate any of these districts after the coming elections are over, and, if so, what they are and on what grounds?

A.—(*a*) The elections have been completed to all but the Vellore and Tiruvannamalai District Boards.

(*b*) None of the newly elected members came into office on 1st November 1935. The district boards in respect of which the term of the old members was extended up to 31st December 1935 were Cuddapah, South Arcot and West Godavari.

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[a] Printed as Appendix II on pages 179–181 infra.

(c) Only two, namely, the old North Arcot and Guntur District Boards were bifurcated before the date of their ordinary elections.

(d) The proposal to bifurcate the West Godavari District Board is under consideration. Attention is however invited to the Press Communiqué, dated 15th January 1936, regarding bifurcation of district boards.

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER :—" With regard to the answer given in clause (b) that none of the newly elected members came into office on 1st November 1935, may I know whether it is not a fact that the Hon. Minister gave an undertaking at the time of the passing of the Act that the elections would be held in the normal course and that the newly elected members would come to office in the normal time? "

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI :—" General elections to a very large number of district boards were held in the normal course; in some cases, it was not possible to do so."

Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI :—" Will the Hon. Minister be pleased to state when the Government expect the report of the Special Officer who has been appointed? "

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI :—" He has just been appointed; I am not quite sure whether he has started the enquiry; it is not possible for me to indicate the time that will be necessary to complete his investigation."

Progress of elections to the twelve district boards for which elections are due this year.

* 905 Q.—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER : Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) when the elections for each of the twelve district boards for which elections are to be completed before the end of this year are likely to be held;

(b) when the preparation for the conduct of election of each of the district boards included in the third group as made in Act XIII of 1935 are to be commenced and when the elections are likely to be finished in that district;

(c) whether the elections for panchayats or for the district boards are to take place first in each district; and

(d) what the anticipated expenditure is for the special election staff appointed for local board elections during this year and whether any saving is expected to be made and if so, by how much?

A.—(a) Attention is invited to the answer given to question No. 904.

(b) It is proposed to appoint the necessary staff and to start work from 1st March 1936. It is not possible to say when the elections will be finished.

(c) Elections to each panchayat and district board will be held as soon as convenient after its electoral roll is prepared.

(d) Rupees 1,08,000. The saving expected is Rs. 6,000.

Mr. K. Koti Reddi:—"With regard to answer (b), may I know whether the staff has actually been appointed? It is stated in the answer that it will start work from 1st March 1936, and it is now 12th instant."

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—"The question refers to election staff; orders have already been passed appointing the necessary staff."

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed:—"Do I understand that the Hon. Minister has a set programme of elections for these district boards?"

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—"Elections have to be held normally in August and September."

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed:—"May I know what the latest date is by which all the elections will be over?"

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—"Elections will have to be held and completed between August and September."

Extension of the term of the South Kanara District Board.

* 906 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the new general elections for the South Kanara District Board have been completed, and if so, when;

(b) whether orders have been passed fixing the date for the expiry of life of the present district board in that district; if so, when and whether a copy of the order will be placed on the table;

(c) whether the date originally fixed in this behalf has been subsequently shifted and if so, what the reasons therefor are; and

(d) whether copies of the orders in this matter will be placed on the table?

A.—(a) Yes, in November 1935 and February 1936.

(b) Yes—vide notification No. 791 published at page 269 of Part I-A of the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 16th July 1935.

(c) & (d) Yes—vide notification No. 1245 published at page 448 of Part I-A of the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 15th October 1935. The extension was ordered in view of the revision of some of the district board circles.

Extension of the term of the South Arcot District Board.

* 907 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) at what stage the new general elections of the South Arcot District Board are;

(*b*) whether they have been completed; if so, when and if not, when they are likely to be completed;

(*c*) what the reasons are for delaying the elections so far in this district;

(*d*) whether orders have been passed fixing a date for the expiry of the life of the present district board in that district;

(*e*) if so, whether a copy of the order will be placed on the table; and

(*f*) whether the date originally fixed has subsequently been shifted, and if so, what the reasons therefor are; and whether copies of the orders will be placed on the table?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The elections were completed on the 30th January 1936.

(*c*) On account of the revision of the district board circles, the preparation of the electoral roll could be completed only on 31st October 1935. But the elections could not be held in November 1935 on account of unfavourable monsoon conditions in the district. The Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards also suggested the desirability of giving some time to the general public to familiarize themselves with the new circles. Hence the elections were held in December 1935.

(*d*), (*e*) & (*f*) Attention is invited to notifications Nos. 791, 1245 and 1393 published respectively at pages 269, 448 and 512 of Part I-A of the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 16th July 1935, 15th October 1935 and 12th November 1935. The date had to be changed owing, first to the revision of the district board circles and then to the conduct of elections in December 1935.

Alteration of the electoral circles in the South Arcot District Board.

* 908 *Q.*—Mr. M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) when the preliminary voters' lists for the South Arcot District Board were published;

(*b*) after the publication of such lists how many district board circles were altered or changed and what the names of those circles are;

(*c*) who proposed the changes and when; and

(*d*) when the Government passed orders on the same?

A.—(*a*) 5th October 1935.

(*b*), (*c*) & (*d*) On 19th October 1935, the Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards brought to the notice of Government some errors in the notification dividing the South Arcot district into circles. An erratum to the notification was accordingly issued and was published at page 486 of Part I-A of the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated the 29th October 1935.

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Mr. M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar :—" Did the Inspector of Municipal Councils take action on his own initiative, or at the instance of the Government? "

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili :—" I am not able to answer that question. The Inspector reported to the Government that there were some errors in the notification, and he was authorized to issue an erratum to the notification."

Mr. M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar :—" Were the errors all printing errors, or did they involve a thorough change of the electoral roll? " roll? "

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili :—" They did not amount to a thorough change of the electoral roll."

Alteration of the electoral circles in the Cuddapah District Board.

* 909 *Q.*—Mr. M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar : Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any changes in the electoral circles for the Cuddapah District Board were made before the recent elections of that board;

(*b*) who proposed the changes and what the changes made by the Government were; and

(*c*) when orders were passed by the Government?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) & (*c*) The Government took action on the resolution of the district board. The proposals as approved by the Government are contained in Local Self-Government Department Notification No. 1457, published at pages 531–533 of Part I-A of the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated the 19th November 1935.

Mr. K. Koti Reddi :—" May I know if as early as April 1935 a petition was put in by Mr. C. L. Narasimha Reddi and his friends asking for some changes in the circles, and whether the Government did not reply to them, that on account of the pending elections and on account of the publication of the preliminary rolls, such changes could not be effected? "

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili :—" In the beginning, certain proposals were received from individual members of the District Board to carry out some changes. The Government felt that in view of the shortness of the time at their disposal, it might not be possible for them to undertake a thorough re-examination of the whole question, and the petitioners were informed accordingly. Afterwards, the District Board considered the matter and sent up proposals, on which the Government took action."

Mr. K. Koti Reddi :—" Is it not a fact that after the reply was given to the petitioners by the Government, they came here and made

representations to the proper authorities or to the Government, and that then their written representation was sent to the District Board for its opinion?"

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"I have already stated that Government declined to take any action on the representation made by individual members; they took action only on the resolution passed by the District Board."

Mr. K. KOTI REDDI:—"My question has not been answered yet. My question is whether after intimation to the petitioners that the Government would not interfere, when the very same petitioners came here and put in a written memorandum—or call it whatever you will—that memorandum was sent back to the District Board for its opinion?"

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"I have stated that the Government did not take action on the petitions from individuals; they were forwarded to the District Board. Only on the resolution passed by the District Board, the action was taken."

Delay in filling the vacancy of Vice-President, Vellore District Board.

* 910 *Q.*—Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the office of Vice-President to the Vellore District Board is vacant;

(*b*) for what time has that office been vacant;

(*c*) whether any steps were taken to fill up the office; and

(*d*) if not, why not?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Since 1st December 1935.

(*c*) & (*d*) The President, District Board, Vellore, has reported that as the term of the existing members would expire on 31st March 1936, the question of the election of vice-president of the board was not taken into consideration.

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR:—"May I know whether there is no statutory obligation on the part of the Board to fill up the vacancy immediately after it arises?"

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"I presume that no definite period has been prescribed. Naturally, the vacancies are to be filled up as early as possible."

Proposals for the bifurcation of the Malabar District Board.

* 911 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there are any proposals to bifurcate the Malabar District Board;

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(*b*) if so, what they are; at what stage they are; and when they are likely to be brought into effect; and

(*c*) when the new elections are likely to come up for that district board?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The proposal is to constitute new district boards as specified below:—

Name of district board.	Jurisdiction of the district board (revenue taluks).
(1)	(2)
Malabar, South ..	(i) Calicut, (ii) Ernad, (iii) Walluvanad, (iv) Palghat, (v) Ponnani, (vi) Portion of Wynaad taluk (consisting of 15 amsams), and (vii) Gudalur (of the Nilgiri district).
Malabar, North ..	(i) Chirakkal, (ii) Kottayam, (iii) Kurumbranad, and (iv) Wynaad (exclusive of the 15 amsams to be included in Malabar South).

The Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards has been asked to prepare and submit the normal budgets of the new boards. It is not possible to say at this stage when the proposal will be given effect to.

(*c*) As matters stand at present, elections are likely to be held in the months of August, September or October 1936.

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—"May I ask the Hon. the Minister whether bifurcation will precede the new elections or whether it will be after the new elections?"

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"We are trying to expedite the matter. It is impossible for me to say how long, in the case of all the district boards, bifurcation will take."

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—"May I know whether there is any proposal to give over the Kasaragod and the Puttur taluks of the South Kanara district to the Board to be constituted as the North Malabar District Board?"

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"If the hon. Member will refer to the printed answer, he will find that there is no such proposal under consideration."

Rao Sahib V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"With reference to the answer to clause (*c*), may I know whether the Wynaads including Gudalur has to face fresh election in view of the fact that there was election only in 1934?"

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"As far as I can understand, in all the remaining district boards, elections will have to be held."

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Mr. V. T. Arasu:—" Will the Hon. the Minister be pleased to state the policy of the Government with regard to bifurcation of district boards, whether bifurcation will be made before or after the elections? "

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—" Before coming to a decision, the Government have to see whether bifurcation is financially feasible, but as regards the exact date, it depends on the time taken in the examination and the necessary arrangements to be made for giving effect to the decision."

Diwan Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar:—" May I know whether the proposal contained in the answer to clause (b) is a Government proposal or a proposal of the District Board? "

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—" Government proposal."

Diwan Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar:—" May I know whether the District Board has requested Government to divide the present board into three or four boards? "

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—" I have not seen actually a copy of the proceedings, but it has been reported in the newspapers that one of the proposals was to split up the board into three."

Diwan Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar:—" Do the Government think it is a feasible proposal? "

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—" So far, Government have been proceeding on the basis of bifurcating each district board. I am not sure, taking the present financial position of the Malabar District Board into consideration, whether it would be possible to carve out three district boards."

Mr. A. B. Shetty:—" In answer to clause (b), it is stated that Gudalur taluk of the Nilgiri district is proposed to be included in Malabar South. May I know whether the Government have considered the representations made by the District Board and the people of Nilgiris in this respect, and whether they have come to a final decision regarding the abolition of the Nilgiri District Board? "

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—" A number of petitions have reached the Government, and the whole question is now under consideration."

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed:—" May I know whether the Hon. Minister does not think that it is of great advantage to have the bifurcation made prior to the elections instead of after the elections? "

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—" I cannot say."

Proposals for the bifurcation of the Coimbatore District Board.

* 912 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether there are any proposals to bifurcate the Coimbatore District Board;

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(b) if so, what they are; at what stage they are; and when they are likely to be brought into effect; and

(c) when the new elections for this district board are likely to come up?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The proposal is to constitute new district boards as shown below:—

Name of new district board.	Names of taluks included in the proposed local fund district.
Erode	(i) Kollegal, (ii) Gobichettipalaiyam, (iii) Bhavani, (iv) Palladam, and (v) Erode.
Coimbatore ..	(i) Coimbatore, (ii) Avanashi, (iii) Pollachi including Valparai Local Fund village, (iv) Dharapuram, (v) Udamalpet, (vi) Coonoor, and (vii) Ootacamund.

The Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards has been asked to prepare and submit the normal budgets of the new boards. It is not possible to say at this stage when the proposal will be given effect to.

(c) As matters stand at present, elections are likely to be held during the months of August, September or October 1936.

Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder:—" May I know whether the proposal to amalgamate the major part of the Nilgiris District Board with the proposed bifurcated district board of Coimbatore is still under consideration, or whether the matter has been dropped? "

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—" There is no such proposal. "

Diwan Bahadur T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar:—" May I know if any representations have been received on this question? "

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—" Yes, Sir; they were received and they are being carefully considered. "

Mr. J. A. Davis:—" May I know from the Hon. the Minister whether any final decision has been arrived at in regard to the abolition of the District Board of Nilgiris? "

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—" No final decision yet. "

Election of the President to the Ramachandrapuram Panchayat Board, East Godavari.

* 913 Q.—Mrs. A. Rukmani Lakshmipathi: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state what the reasons are for not conducting the President's election for the Ramachandrapuram Panchayat Board in spite of the several representations made to

the Government and in spite of the orders of the Inspector of Local Boards contained in R.C.C.E. No. 325923 of 1935, dated the 25th September 1935, directing the election?

A.—The Government understand that the election of President was held on the 11th December 1934, but that it was set aside by the Election Commissioner, Ramachandrapuram, on 17th August 1935, and that the temporary President appointed by the President, District Board, East Godavari, has failed to hold a fresh election.

Election of the President to the Ramachandrapuram Panchayat Board, East Godavari.

* 914 *Q.*—Mr. P. PEDDI RAJU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the election of members of the Panchayat Board, Ramachandrapuram, was held in October 1934;

(*b*) whether the temporary President refused to conduct the election of the President;

(*c*) whether the President, East Godavari District Board, appointed any one to conduct the election of the President and whether the said election was set aside by the Court;

(*d*) whether the office of the President is still vacant;

(*e*) whether any representations were made by the members of the Panchayat to the Inspector of Local Boards and the Government regarding the failure to conduct the election of the President; and

(*f*) what steps the Government have taken to remedy the grievances?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The temporary president failed to hold the election of president.

(*c*) Yes.

(*d*) Yes.

(*e*) Yes.

(*f*) The Government have directed the temporary president of the panchayat board to convene a meeting for the election of president within a fortnight and to report the result to the Government by the 10th March 1936.

Mr. P. PEDDI RAJU:—"Am I to understand, Sir, that the Government are powerless to compel the temporary President of the Panchayat Board to Ramachandrapuram from December 1934 till to-day to hold the election of the President?"

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"Government can only issue instructions; they cannot use physical force. The only remedy available to the Government, if Government Orders are not carried out is to remove him by issuing a notice as required under the Act."

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Mr. P. Peddi Raju :—" Am I to understand that the temporary president whose conduct has been reported to the Government from December 1934 onwards could not be dealt with by the Government till now, or could not be removed by the Government in spite of the fact that he is refusing to hold the election of president and that there has been no president from 1934 up till now? "

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili :—" First of all, the delay was due to the fact that the court set aside the election; subsequently Government instructions have not been so far carried out, for completing the election. "

Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt :—" May I know to which party the temporary president belongs? "

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili :—" I am afraid I am not in a position to answer. "

Mr. P. Peddi Raju :—" Are the Government aware that Ramachandrapuram is the village where the District Board President himself resides? "

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili :—" I am personally aware of the fact. "

Mr. C. Ramalinga Reddi :—" Will the Government have the place cleansed—cleaned up? "

Mr. G. Sriramulu :—" May I know, Sir, with reference to the answer to clause (*f*), whether the president's election has taken place about a month or so ago? "

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili :—" I have no information officially on the matter."

Alleged interference on the part of the President, District Board, East Godavari in the affairs of the Ramachandrapuram Panchayat Board.

* 915 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder : Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether representations have been received recently by Government from some of the members of the Ramachandrapuram Panchayat Board in East Godavari District complaining about the interference of the district board president, and about the matter of not conducting the president's election of the said panchayat;

(*b*) if so, whether a copy of it will be placed on the table; and

(*c*) what action the Government have taken or propose to take in the matter?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) No.

(*c*) Attention is invited to the answer to clause (*f*) of question No. 914.

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Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder:—"With reference to the answer to clause (b) of the question, may I know what objections there are to place a copy on the table?"

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—"It is only a question of expense—all these representations which have been received will have to be tabulated and printed and distributed."

Mr. C. Ramalinga Reddi:—"May I ask the Hon. the Minister what he proposes to do in case the temporary president continues to make himself a fixture, as he has done hitherto?"

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—"Government propose to remove him."

Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari:—"Is it not a fact that there is some provision to get such people prosecuted and convicted under the Local Boards Act, whenever they disobey orders of the Government?"

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—"It may perhaps be done when the circumstances require it."

Election of the President to the Ramachandrapuram Panchayat Board, East Godavari.

* 916 Q.—Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder:—Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the general elections of the Ramachandrapuram Panchayat Board in East Godavari district took place in October 1934, but the president's election was put off for a considerable time;

(b) whether representations have been made to Government and the Inspector of Local Boards by some of the members of the said panchayat in this behalf;

(c) if so, what action was taken either by the Inspector or by the Government;

(d) whether copies of the representations and the orders passed thereon will be placed on the table;

(e) whether it is a fact that the president's election and the vice-president's election which took place at a later date were set aside by the Court;

(f) if so, whether copies of the judgment in these cases will be placed on the table; and

(g) whether fresh elections for the president and vice-president have been completed, and if so, when and if not, what are the reasons for the delay?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) Attention is invited to the answer given to clause (f) of question No. 914.

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(d) No.

(e) The Government understand that the elections were set aside by the Election Commissioner, Ramachandrapuram.

(f) No.

(g) No. Attention is invited to the answer given to question No. 913.

Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder :—" This question seems to have been pending with the Government for a long time. May I ask the Hon. Minister to state what the reasons are for the delay in taking prompt action? "

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili :—" The matter was delegated to the Inspector of Local Boards and Government have been informed, on a reference made, that he has issued necessary instructions to the temporary President to complete the election."

Mr. C. Ramalinga Reddi :—" May I ask my Hon. Friend why Government did not take action far earlier, when they knew that the temporary president was trying to make himself a permanent occupant? "

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili :—" Government did not anticipate that the temporary president would continue to disregard the instructions issued. "

Mr. C. Ramalinga Reddi :—" May I ask who appointed this temporary president, and whether the authority that appointed him took care to understand the kind of customer he was dealing with? "

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili :—" Under the Act, I think it is the President of the District Board who makes the appointment. Experience has shown during the last elections that when once the appointments are made, these temporary presidents defy the wishes of the District Board Presidents."

Mr. C. Ramalinga Reddi :—" May I ask my Hon. Friend whether he has any reason to believe that this temporary president is acting in connivance with the President of the District Board, and if so, whether he will turn his attention also to the conduct of the President of the District Board? "

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili :—" In the absence of any definite information, I do not like to venture an answer to this question. "

Mr. P. Peddi Raju :—"Am I to understand that the Government were not informed as early as December 1934 that the President of the District Board was colluding with the temporary president to see that the election of the president was not held? "

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili :—" Only some petitions were received from non-officials; failing a satisfactory proof, Government were not prepared to immediately accept the allegations made. "

Mr. P. PEDDI RAJU:—" In view of the fact that the Hon. the Minister has now agreed to say that these temporary presidents are not properly behaving, will the Government consider the advisability of removing the power of nomination of temporary presidents, from the District Board Presidents? "

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—" Without making any alternative provision in the Act, if my hon. Friend's proposal is accepted, the administration of the panchayat boards will break down."

Mr. P. PEDDI RAJU:—" What I mean to say is that the Act should be so amended as to remove the power of nomination, and to provide for an ex officio temporary president to conduct the election? "

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—" But then who is to be the ex officio president? "

Proposals for the supersession of the Panchayat Board, Jammalamadugu.

* 917 *Q.*—Mr. T. NARASA REDDI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that a notice has been issued to the Panchayat Board, Jammalamadugu (Cuddapah district), to show cause why the board should not be superseded; and

(*b*) whether the final orders for the supersession have been passed; if not, why not?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) No, the matter is under the consideration of the Government.

Mr. K. KOTI REDDI:—" May I know when this notice of supersession of the board was issued? "

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—" Some time back. I must ask for notice if the exact date is wanted. "

Mr. K. KOTI REDDI:—" It would have been at least two months so far as I know; may I know when the Government will issue final orders? "

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—" The matter is under consideration and early orders will issue. "

Mr. K. KOTI REDDI:—" What are the reasons for issuing this notice? "

Mr. C. RAMALINGA REDDI:—" May I ask whether the notice itself does not contain the grounds on which action is to be taken? "

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—" Under the Act, the notice must contain the grounds. "

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Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari:—" Simply because the notice has been issued, are the Government bound to supersede the panchayat? "

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—" Certainly not, Sir. If a notice is given, it does not mean that the Government have already come to a decision in the matter. "

Appointment of a permanent staff for the preparation of the electoral rolls of local boards.

* 918 *Q.*—Mr. A. B. Shetty: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether permanent staff has been appointed for preparing the electoral rolls of local boards; and

(*b*) whether any saving in expenditure to local boards is expected as the result of this appointment?

A.—(*a*) No.

(*b*) Does not arise.

Mr. A. B. Shetty:—" May I know, Sir, why no permanent staff has been appointed although this was one of the main objects of the Amending Bill which was passed about a year ago? " 11-3 a.m.

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—" We want to gain some experience as to the actual working of the staff before making permanent appointments. It has also been found that permanent officers of the Revenue Department may not be found to volunteer themselves for these posts."

Appointment of the District Board Engineer, Salem, to be in additional charge of the post of the Local Fund Assistant Engineer.

* 919 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the District Board Engineer, Salem, was also asked to do duty as the Local Fund Assistant Engineer of the place, by the President, Salem District Board, during some months in 1935 even without getting the previous sanction of the Government;

(*b*) if so, whether this procedure is correct; if it is not correct, what action was taken to rectify it; and

(*c*) for what period the District Board Engineer was thus in additional charge of the Assistant Engineer referred to?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The president should have obtained the previous sanction of the Government for placing the district board engineer in additional charge of the assistant engineer's post and this was pointed out to him, while ratifying his action.

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(c) From the 20th April 1935 (afternoon) to the 29th June 1935 (afternoon) and again from 4th July 1935 to 15th September 1935.

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER :—" May I ask the Hon. the Minister whether the Government will see that such sort of appointment of the District Board Engineer to be in charge of the post of Local Fund Assistant Engineer also and for a fairly long time is detrimental to the superior quality of work that the District Board Engineer is expected to turn out? "

The Hon. *the* RAJA OF BOBBILI :—" If the hon. Member would point out any particular instance. I have no objection to consider the question."

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER :—" May I ask the Hon. the Chief Minister to state the exceptional circumstances under which the District Board Engineer at Salem was appointed to be in charge of the work of the Local Fund Assistant Engineer for a fairly long time? "

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI :—" Government cannot take any action on such general statements."

Orders of Government, if any, fixing the strength of the Engineering, Medical and Public Health staff of District Boards.

* 920 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER : Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether orders have been passed with regard to the fixing up of the strength of the Engineering, Medical and Public Health staff of the district boards;

(*b*) if so, in the cases of how many district boards such orders have been passed and what their names are; and

(*c*) whether copies of orders passed in the case of the Salem district board in all these matters will be placed on the table?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) A statement showing the information required is appended.[a]

(*c*) The orders passed are communicated to the district boards concerned. It is considered unnecessary to place these orders on the table of the Legislative Council.

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER :—" May I know, Sir, whether the new scale of pay in the Engineering Department has been given effect to in all district boards and especially in the Salem District Board? "

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI :—" I believe orders were issued or are about to issue in the case of the engineering establishments of district boards."

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER :—" I believe orders have been passed fixing the scale of pay for engineering establishments. But my question is whether the new scale of pay has been given effect to in all district boards? "

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[a] *Printed as Appendix III on page 182 infra.*

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The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI :—" Government have no information that effect has not been given to their orders."

Mr. P. PEDDI RAJU :—" So far as I can see from Appendix III, no orders seem to have been passed regarding the strength of the Engineering staff? "

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI :—" Yes, Sir, the existing strength has been continued."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED :—" May I know, Sir, whether orders have been passed with regard to the superior staff in the Engineering section of the district boards? "

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI :—" As the hon. Member's question referred to the scale of pay, I have answered it."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED :—" Both in regard to the strength of the superior staff and pay? "

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI :—" I believe orders have been passed within the past few weeks."

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER :—" May I ask the Hon. the Minister whether the introduction of the new scale of pay has been given effect to in all the district boards; and if that information is not available, may I ask him whether he would call for it in order to ascertain whether the new scale of pay has been introduced and is in force now? "

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI :—" I do not think it will be possible. Further the results expected are not worth the time and expense involved in obtaining this information. But, if the hon. Member refers to any particular district, I shall certainly obtain the information."

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER :—" With regard to the Salem District Board, I think the new scale of pay has not been brought into effect even though orders were received long ago. May I ask the Hon. the Chief Minister to obtain the information as to whether it has been introduced, and if not, the reason for the delay? "

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI :—" I shall certainly call for the information."

Police

Alleged petition against Mr. T. Raju Pillai, Deputy Superintendent of Police, Coimbatore.

* 921 *Q.*—MRS. A. RUKMANI LAKSHMIPATHI : Will the Hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that a petition against Mr. T. Raju Pillai, Deputy Superintendent of Police, Coimbatore, was sent to the Inspector-General of Police, containing allegations that he made his subordinates —Inspectors and Sub-Inspectors—pay his petrol bills;

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(b) if so, whether any enquiry was held;

(c) at what stage the enquiry is; and

(d) if it has been finished, what the findings of the enquiry are?

A.—(a) No such petition was received by the Inspector-General of Police. Mr. T. Raju Pillai was however handed up to him by the District Superintendent of Police, Coimbatore, on a charge of habitually receiving supplies of petrol without payment from the Sub-Inspectors of Police of Satyamangalam, Gobichettipalaiyam and Nambiyur stations.

(b) Yes.

(c) & (d) The Inspector-General found the charge to be untrue.

Mrs. A. Rukmani Lakshmipathi:—" May I know from the Hon. the Home Member whether any petition was sent up to the District Superintendent of Police, Coimbatore, complaining about the conduct of Mr. Raju Pillai? "

The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. Pannirselvam:—" No petition was sent up, but representation was made to the District Superintendent of Police by the Inspector of Police."

Mr. C. Ramalinga Reddi:—" May I know, Sir, whether anybody was dealt with departmentally for having sent up a petition against Mr. Raju Pillai? "

The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. Pannirselvam:—" Some are being dealt with."

Diwan Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar:—" May I know, Sir, whether as a result of the enquiry, one of the inspectors has already been transferred as the allegations proved to be false? "

The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. Pannirselvam:—" I am not able to say whether he has been transferred. The question as to what action has to be taken regarding the allegations which have now been found to be false is being considered."

Mrs. A. Rukmani Lakshmipathi:—" May I know from the Hon. the Home Member whether one Mr. Ramanatha Ayyar was suspended because he sent up a petition to the Inspector-General of Police or to the District Superintendent of Police? "

The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. Pannirselvam:—" I am not aware, Sir."

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan:—" I find from the answer that the gentleman was handed up to the Inspector-General of Police by the District Superintendent of Police. May I know that when such a high officer as the District Superintendent of Police takes action against one of his men, he does so on certain authority and why that authority did not tally with the enquiry held by the Inspector-General of Police? "

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The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM:—"For obvious reasons. The Inspector-General of Police is the highest authority and it is open to him to give an opinion different from his subordinates on materials placed before him."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"Allegations might have been found to be true or not true at the end, but when they were made in the first instance, were they not made in a bona fide spirit?"

The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM:—"Inasmuch as the allegations were found to be false, prima facie, they were not made bona fide."

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—"May I know, Sir, when action is taken against smaller men, inspectors and others, for having complained, why no action was taken against the District Superintendent of Police?"

The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM:—"The District Superintendent of Police did not complain, Sir. On the complaints made to the District Superintendent of Police, he made enquiries and submitted a report which is quite a different thing from preferring a complaint."

Mr. K. P. RAMAN MENON:—"May I know whether Mr. Raju Pillai is still there or has been transferred elsewhere?"

The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM:—"Notice, Sir."

Mr. V. P. NARAYANAN NAMBIYAR:—"May I know, Sir, whether the Hon. the Home Member is aware that Mr. Raju Pillai was handed up to the Inspector-General of Police by the District Superintendent of Police?"

The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM:—"That is what the answer says."

Mr. V. P. NARAYANAN NAMBIYAR:—"Then how is it you say that the allegations are untrue?"

The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM:—"As I have already stated, the District Superintendent of Police acts on information furnished to him and gathered by him, and on the information available to him he comes to a certain conclusion. On the strength of that conclusion, the District Superintendent of Police reports to the Inspector-General of Police with the materials on which his conclusion is based. The Inspector-General of Police goes through those materials and comes to the conclusion that the District Superintendent of Police's conclusion is not well-founded; and both of them might act perfectly bona fide."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"May I know, Sir, whether it was a departmental enquiry or a public enquiry?"

The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM:—"I am not able to understand the distinction when it concerns a departmental officer being dealt with departmentally."

[*Note.*—**An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.**]

II.—BILL TO AMEND THE MADRAS BORSTAL SCHOOLS ACT, 1925—APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN OF SELECT COMMITTEE.

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I appoint Rajkumar M. A. Muthiah Chettiyar of Chettinad to be the Chairman of the Select Committee on the Madras Borstal Schools (Amendment) Bill (Bill No. 7 of 1936)."

III.—MOTION *RE* THE CONSTRUCTION OF A BUILDING FOR THE NEW HOUSES OF LEGISLATURE.

* The Hon. Mr. G. T. H. BRACKEN :—" Mr. President, Sir, I beg to move the resolution that stands in my name, namely :—

> '*This Council recommends to the Government that the construction of a suitable building for the accommodation of the two Houses of the Legislature under the new constitution may be taken on hand as soon as possible.*'

" Hon. Members are aware, I think, of the history of what has happened about the accommodation of the new legislature. When the Government thought there was going to be only one House, it was proposed to adopt this present chamber for the single House. Of course, the situation is now changed, because there are to be two Houses, but on the whole it would seem best to locate the Upper House, that is to say, the Smaller House, in this chamber, because the accommodation is really inadequate for the larger House, the Lower Chamber, and in any case would involve expensive alterations. That being so, it is necessary to consider what should be done for the permanent location of the two Houses. All possible alternatives have been explored and it seems impossible not to build a new chamber for the two Houses. Temporarily the Upper House will be located here and the Lower House it is proposed to locate temporarily in the Senate House. In regard to that matter, a supplementary grant will be moved in due course and I can then take the opportunity of explaining the arrangements in detail. These temporary arrangements are obviously only make-shifts and the University whose co-operation in the matter I wish to acknowledge, agreed only very reluctantly to place the Senate House at our disposal on condition that as early arrangements as possible should be made to construct a proper chamber for both the Houses, because naturally the University do not want the Senate House kept by the Government for any longer time than is necessary.

" As regards the site for the new Chamber, every possible alternative has been explored. As the House is aware, the land round the Fort belongs to the Government of India and is in the possession of the Military authorities. After certain difficulty, the Government of India have agreed provisionally that the site known as the Napier Battery site might be made available for the purpose in question. The site is close to the Napier Bridge where there are some temporary structures in the occupation of the Military Department. That on the whole would seem to be the most convenient site, as it is fairly accessible from the Secretariat and has an open space with all the amenities and the sea

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breeze. At this stage, it is very difficult to give any exact estimate of the cost—it may be 15 lakhs or it may be quite possibly more. Now, it is necessary to get on with the preliminary arrangements as early as possible. First of all, a design has to be worked out; then plans and estimates have to be prepared in detail and afterwards tenders have to be called for; and all that business will take considerable time. It therefore appears necessary to the Government that immediate arrangements should be made for this preliminary arrangement. It is not the opinion of the Government possibly to let the matter lie over till the new Government comes into office. On account of the time that will be taken, if we wait till then, it means in effect a delay of nearly two years and it means keeping the University out of the Senate House for a much longer period to which they take strong objection. The main expenditure necessary at present is the appointment of a Special Architect to design this building.

"If further expenditure is necessary a supplementary grant will 11
be moved at the next session in July or August. By that time I hope a.
to have fuller information placed before the House and possibly a rough design of the proposed building. I believe that the House will agree that a structure worthy of the new legislature and worthy of this province is necessary and that the site provisionally selected is suitable in every way. We shall have one advantage, the removal of the somewhat unsightly buildings used by the Military department and the construction on that site of a building which will be in keeping with the other buildings on the Marina."

The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM:—"I second it."

Mr. C. RAMALINGA REDDI:—"I suppose, Mr. President, we will have to agree to this motion as a necessity. I would like, however, some information as to the type of architecture which Government propose to adopt. My Hon. Friend laid down I think that these buildings will have to be in harmony with the structures in the neighbourhood. I think, Sir, that is one of the principles to be borne in mind. It is not the only one nor in the opinion of most of us could it be regarded as by far the most important. Sir, excepting the Presidency College and one or two buildings of that type the rest of the public structures in our city are generally thought to possess no special character harmonious with the Dravidian civilization. The M.S.M. Railway adopted I believe as the result of the labours of a distinguished Indian Engineer for their offices Dravidian style of architecture copied from the old Vijayanagar Empire. In the same way I do hope that in regard to the new legislature a clearly Dravidian and Swadesi design will be adopted.

"My Hon. Friend mentioned that this was for housing the Parliaments in the New Constitution. Surely it ought to be in accordance with the spirit in which the New Constitution is going to function. My Hon. Friend knows as well as anybody else that the spirit of the New Constitution will be different from that of the present one and far more different from that of the old bureaucracy which dominated our Presidency for very long. And will he not at least in the matter

of architecture (laughter) show sufficient imagination and sympathy with the aspirations of the new forces that we trust will be in charge of the Government of this Presidency and see that in this matter he acts in conformity with the demands both of public opinion and of Dravidian art?

" Furthermore, Sir, I would request him to see that the materials used are as far as possible of Indian manufacture. We should not like to make these buildings of ours an occasion for increasing unnecessarily exports from foreign countries even including England. We must encourage local industry, local engineering talent and local labour as one way of meeting this terrible problem of unemployment and as further more a testimony of the living interest that Government possesses in the material prosperity of our country. A motion like this, a bald one without any of the details for forming the judgment is somewhat of the nature of a hazarduous proposition to be made in this House. But in view of the necessities I think we may have to agree.

" I wonder whether the Hon. the Finance Member will be able to give us sufficient assurance on the various points I raised. I can sympathize with the idea of the University that it should not have these new legislatures for longer than necessary housed in its ancient halls and places where convocations are held. But let us not in our desire to hurry on with this work lose sight of the more important and permanent elements which ought to be embodied in these structures, elements which will be able to rouse something of a patriotic pride in the people of our country and which would touch the imagination of the generations of legislators who I trust will function there and lead the country to higher levels of progress."

Mr. K. Koti Reddi:—" Mr. President, Sir, though the Hon. the Finance Member has not been in a position to give us more information I think, Sir, it would be necessary for us to express our opinions on the various points before he makes up his mind as to the sort of building that we are to have. If to-day, Sir, I welcome the existence of a second chamber in this Province it is mainly for the reason that we are soon getting out of these buildings. Sir, everyone of us feels here that this building is deprived of acoustic properties. For some of us who have really to be away from you, Sir, it is almost impossible to hear and there is much more difficulty to be heard by others who are sitting away from us. One consideration that ought to be kept in mind before the Government is to see that the new buildings to house the Parliamentary Assemblies of this Province are so constructed as to give us the best acoustic properties. Once I was in Calcutta in a building that was designed by Sir Jagadeesh Chandra Bose where even a drop of a pin could be heard from any part of the house. Such were the acoustic properties. The other points that I wanted to touch has been touched by my hon. Friend Mr. C. R. Reddi. When we consider the way in which Government buildings are built I think attention ought to be drawn to the matter of architectural design. It is not a question of mere Dravidian architecture. It seems to me it is a question of some architecture. Most of the Government

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buildings cannot be said to have any pretence to any architectural beauty. It is not possible for poor people to build good buildings with some pretension to artistic beauty. But, if Government is spending vast amounts of money on buildings, I think it is up to them that at least some buildings are built with some pretensions to beauty, especially in Parliamentary Houses whereto you attract men from various portions of this Presidency, men who are expected to take some interest in the future legislatures. I do believe that as far as possible a beautiful building will be built artistic from the Indian architectural point of view. We have a number of artistic buildings of Indian origin in this country.

" I believe, Sir, the accommodation that has to be provided must be fairly ample. It is not only a question of 215 members of the Assembly but I believe we have to hold joint sessions of both the Assembly and the Council, when there should be accommodation for at least 300. I do not believe that in the Parliamentary building to be built, we shall have accommodation for only half the number like the House of Commons. At least in that respect, let us not copy the method of Parliaments here. Not only that, I really want better and larger accommodation in the new Parliament House for the visitors. In the future, at any rate, we expect a large number of visitors and I hope the rules will be relaxed, so as to attract more visitors. With regard to the other things regarding the need for a library, visitors' room, Ministers, etc., I need not say much. But, however it may be, it will be a great advantage if the House should be as near as possible to the Secretariat. We have to come very often for some information or other to the Secretariat. After taking into consideration all these things, I think the Hon. the Finance Member has selected almost an ideal site very near the Secretariat and very near the University buildings and on the open beach. I also urge upon the Government the necessity of taking early steps to construct the building as early as possible without taking four or five years. If Government take serious steps, they ought to finish it in two years. There is only one consideration to which it may not be quite inappropriate now to refer. Whenever I think of a new building in Madras for this Province, I always think of the Andhra Province because I do hope we will be able to get, in a distant day at least, an Andhra Province in which case, large amounts of money spent on accommodation for all the Tamil, Andhra, Canarese and Malayalee gentlemen may be unnecessary. However, I do not want Government to take it into account and stint in accommodation. The building ought to be really a very big one and accommodate a large number of members, besides visitors whom I do expect in large numbers."

* Mr. V. T. Arasu :—" Mr. President, the Hon. the Finance 1
Member in moving the motion said that the first thing that the noo
Government will take up on hand is the appointment of a Special Architect to decide the design of the building. In this connexion, I should like to point out to the Hon. the Finance Member that the

officers at their disposal now, both the Town-Planing Expert and the Consulting Architect, are not possessed of the qualifications which are required of a first rate architect. The present Consulting Architect is not even an ordinary Member of the Royal Institute of British Architects. (Voice: question). (The Hon. Mr. G. T. H. Bracken: He is a Fellow.) Sir, I am not referring to Mr. Dann, who is the Town Planning Expert. Obviously, the Hon. the Finance Member has in view Mr. Dann. I am not referring to him at all. I am referring to the Consulting Architect, Mr. Fernandez, and I maintain he is not a Member of the Royal Institute of British Architects."

* The *Hon. Mr.* G. T. H. BRACKEN:—" Sir, may I shorten the debate by explaining in more detail that it is proposed to advertise for a Special Architect both in India and in England for this purpose?"

* Mr. V. T. ARASU:—" I am assured that it is not the idea of the Government to hand over this building work to their own officers but to advertise for a Special Architect. But on this matter, I should like to sound a note of warning. We have had very bad experience in respect of the appointment of Special Officers by Government. They are brought in as Special Officers for a certain number of years, or for a specific purpose, and then they become permanent fixtures. Therefore, I request the Hon. the Finance Member to see that this Special Architect does not become a permanent fixture. I would suggest that as far as possible the Government should try to secure the services of an Indian to be in charge of designing this building. You have both in Madras as also in other provinces of India some eminent Indians who are Fellows of the Royal Institute of British Architects and who have had vast experience in designing and constructing big buildings. In Madras, there is a certain gentleman, who is a very eminent man and who has designed two University buildings and several other private buildings. I would suggest that in the matter of the appointment of a Special Architect an Indian and an Indian only should be appointed. Therefore, there is no need for advertising for the post in England. It is enough if they advertise in India and definitely state that applications from Indians only will be considered. My hon. Friend, Mr. C. R. Reddi suggested that as regards the construction of the building only swadesi materials should be used. When that remark was being made by Mr. C. R. Reddi, I heard the Hon. the Law Member remarking across the table, ' Indian cement '."

The Hon. Sir K. V. REDDI NAYUDU:—" I did not say that at all."

* Mr. V. T. ARASU:—" I understood the Hon. Member to mean that my hon. Friend. Mr. C. R. Reddi wanted that only Indian cement should be used. Cement is not the only thing required for a building. There is another important material required for building purposes. That is an item in which my hon. Friend, the Leader of the House is interested. I mean timber. Looking around this

House you will find that Burma timber is used. It is so in the case of other Government buildings also. So I would request that teak grown in our own province alone should be used for this building."

The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu :—" Especially Godavari teak."

Mr. V. T. Arasu :—" Very well. Any teak grown in our own province, and not teak imported from Burma.

" I should like to have one more information from the Hon. the Finance Member. He said that the proposal now is to accommodate the Lower House in the Senate House for a temporary period. I should like to know for how many years it is proposed to locate the Lower House in the Senate House and what the terms of agreement are that has been come to with the University authorities."

* Mr. M. S. Sreshta :—" Mr. President, I understand that a Special Architect will be advertised for. I would suggest that applications be invited for new designs, and the best design should be selected, and that the architect who sends the best design should be appointed. Special Officer. If the Special Architect is appointed first and then the design has to be selected, I think that will not be a correct proceeding. I will also add that in this matter we should not carry our patriotism too far. Though I may be saying something unpopular, I should say that in matters like architecture we should not think only of patriotism but spend our money in the best possible way and get the best possible building, which will be suitable for the purpose of carrying on our proceedings. It may not be possible to adopt the Dravidian style of architecture for an entirely modern purpose. In the olden days, there were no legislatures of this sort, and the requirements of these assemblies, might not be met in buildings of that style."

Mr. C. Ramalinga Reddi :—" May I explain to my hon. Friend that the architect does not build and has very little to do with the utility to which the building is put. The principles of our ancient architecture can be applied to any type of modern structures in India to serve modern purposes? "

Mr. M. S. Sreshta :—" I thank Mr. Reddi for his explanation. I know he is a cultured man, and any remarks from him deserve the greatest consideration. But I cannot agree that utility can entirely be divorced from ornament. Architecture is ornamentation applied to a building. It is necessary therefore that in considering the type of architecture to be adopted we must also consider the purpose for which the building is to be used. I will give an instance, the High Court buildings in our city. It was I believe the intention at the time to adopt an oriental style of architecture. But it ended in a combination of oriental and western types of architecture, and a more unfortunate building from the architectural point of view cannot be instanced than the High Court of Madras. It is of course a beautiful building with a large number of towers and modified

gopurams and so on. But it is an extremely gloomy building and it is not suitable for the purpose for which it is meant. I do not at all be-little oriental architecture. On the other hand, I know buildings like the Taj Mahal which show to what heights our ancient architecture has ascended. In the Victoria Technical Institute we have got a specimen of the Indo-Sarcenic architecture which is both beautiful and useful. It may be quite possible that we may get an architectural design of a building which is at the same time beautiful and useful, which is up to date and is at the same time artistic. I would like to have an entirely oriental building if it is possible. I am sure the Hon. the Finance Member would also welcome the construction of a building which is oriental in its structure. But at the same time our principal aim should be that the building is suitable and useful. It does not matter whether the style is Western or oriental or Chinese. The building must be one which satisfies the higher claims of architecture.

"Sir, from this lofty plane, I come to other points. In the first place, the building which is to be put up must not only be ornamental and beautiful but thoroughly useful. I think John Ruskin says somewhere that what is not necessary may be ornamental, but if any ornament reduces the usefulness of a building, it is as bad as ugly. In choosing the design, I hope my suggestion would be accepted.

"My next suggestion would be that in choosing the design care should be taken to see that all the comforts of Members are attended to. For instance, in this Council the chief charge against this hall is that the acoustics are very bad. I was very much interested to hear one hon. Member remarking that one can hear a Member in this House better from the door-way than from inside the House (laughter). In fact I found it true that we can hear many hon. Members from the door-way. But the object of the door-way would be defeated if all the Members crowded to the door-way to hear the speeches. Also I am afraid it may produce a misunderstanding, and the Member speaking may feel that they are all deserting to the door-way not to hear him better but to hear him less (laughter). Sir, I think in this matter we must consider the latest ideas on the subject. Every time there is an improvement effected, and I think it will be wise on the part of the Hon. the Finance Member if he gets designs of similar assembly buildings in India and those built recently elsewhere as in Australia. Then only can we have the most recent ideas. I think that after getting some designs some general consideration should be given to them and then applications should be formally called for. Then, it will be possible to select the best building. I suppose hon. Members are aware how the Taj Mahal came into being. The Taj Mahal was not erected by the appointment of a Special Architect. Not only designs but models were called for, and the best model was accepted."

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—"May I know where the hon. Member got his information from?"

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* Mr. M. S. SRESHTA:—" I would ask the hon. Member to study Indian History better. Then, what I would suggest is that we should have a really good library. The library must be one in which people can read conveniently. I am glad to say that this Council has led the way to other Councils in India, perhaps to other Councils in other countries, by introducing the open-access system. For this much of the credit is due to you, Sir, and you sympathetically accepted the suggestion made by me. But the open-access system is not possible unless certain special arrangements are made in the hall in which the books are kept, and we must adopt the methods which have been adopted in the University Library and in the Connemara Library. The library should be a place in which only Members should be allowed access. Because, if the system is to be worked properly, there should be no doors to any of the almiras, and there will not be sufficient check unless only Members are allowed. I should think, Sir, that the reading room should be separated from the library, and magazines and newspapers should be kept in another room. There other people might be allowed to come in and there conversation may be allowed. What I find in the present library is that the place is used for discussion. When we go to the library, we find any amount of conversation going on. I will therefore suggest a separate reading room.

" I will also suggest a suitable lounge room. Now, the lounge for the Members is situated near the office-rooms of the Finance department, and it is a very gloomy room. It is something like a catacomb. I should like that a proper lounge room should be built, where it will be possible to sit down in comfortable chairs and perhaps hold conversations which is now carried on in the library.

" Then I would also suggest that in our Assembly Hall proper arrangements must be made for the Press. I do not know how the members of the Press are carrying on their difficult duties from their places in this hall. Even our own reporters of the Council find difficulty in hearing the speeches made here. But I am surprised at the accuracy with which the reporters of this Council record the proceedings. It is indeed very creditable to them. But at the same time it ought not to be made very difficult for them to hear Members speaking. As regards the representatives of the Press, it is extremely difficult for them to hear us if I am to judge from the very scrappy accounts of our speeches in the newspapers. I believe this is due to the fact 12
that they cannot hear us and if acoustics are improved and the P
Press have better accommodation we Members can see more of our speeches appearing in Press."

Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR :—" On a point of order, Sir, is it quite relevant at this stage to go into the minute details of construction of the building? "

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—" I don't think it is irrelevant at all, the hon. Member is suggesting several details which require attention when the new construction is undertaken."

Mr. M. S. SRESHTA:—" I am afraid this is a hint to me to shorten my speech. (Laughter. Cries of ' go on.') I find now an opportunity and so I say all these things. The Hon. the Finance Member is one of the sympathetic Members of Government and I wish to take this opportunity of placing my views before him.

" The next point I should like to mention is provision for garage. There is not sufficient accommodation now; and for Members who cannot come in cars but use rickshaws, there is no accommodation at present for their rickshaws. It is painful to see the rickshawallas waiting outside in the hot sun.

" Then I should like to mention the question of suitable accommodation for ladies. There will be more ladies in the next Council.

" There is another point I want to mention, that is, we should have residential accommodation here as in the Legislative Assembly. It is said that the lunch room in the Houses of Parliament in England is the best club in the world and I think rightly it ought to be so. We ought to have suitable surroundings here where we can discuss matters. Much of accremonius criticisms will disappear if we are housed in good buildings where we can sit together and thresh out matters.

" Then I come to the Indian refreshment room. If it were better equipped and better arrangements were made for lunch I am sure there will be much less opposition to Government. (Laughter.) It has been said that many of the greatest controversies in Europe have been settled over banquets.

" There is one other matter that I wish to stress and to which I have already referred, namely, restaurants. The rooms should be made available on easy terms to caterers."

* Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR:—" It will be conceded that new buildings have to be constructed for accommodating the new Houses of Parliament in this Province. The main question at this stage I think is not to go into the details of the rooms, etc., of the buildings to be constructed, but it is with regard to the site as well as the probable cost of the building. Government should not embark upon a costly programme for this purpose, for it would be realized that our country is a poor one where the average income of the individual per year is about Rs. 36. Considering that, Government should not spend vast sums of money on buildings. The Hon. the Finance Member pointed out that the cost may go up to 15 or 20 lakhs. I would suggest that in no circumstances it should be above 10 lakhs at the most. With regard to the site the Government have pointed out that the site near Napier Bridge is suitable. No doubt it is suitable but I believe there will be better sites also available. I do not know the exact terms under which the Gymkhana in the Island ground is located. If Government can get that then it would be the most ideal place. With regard to the style of the building my hon. Friend from Chittoor suggested that it ought to be typically

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Dravidian and also that the materials to be used should be as far as possible Indian. No doubt it is true one would like to have the buildings in Dravidian style, but so far as I am concerned in whatever style it may be, the building should satisfy the eye and be a thing of beauty.

" Then with regard to the temporary accommodation of the Lower House in the Senate House I find that the Government propose to spend over a lakh of rupees on temporary alterations alone. I would suggest that instead of spending so much there, they could make temporary alterations in the present chamber for accommodating the Lower House and find provision for accommodating the Upper House elsewhere. Because the future Upper House will consist of only about 60 members or so and it will be easy to find temporary accommodation for it. For instance, the Examination Hall for the University which is being built may probably accommodate the Upper House, and there will be no need to spend such a large amount on temporary alterations which soon after the temporary occupation comes to an end the Senate will have to alter it again. Then Government are going to give 1,500 rupees as rent to the Senate which is high."

The Hon. Mr. G. T. H. Bracken :—" On a point of order, as the matter is coming up as a supplementary grant later on, is the hon. Member in order in raising the question now? "

Mr. M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar :—" Since the Hon. the Finance Member himself referred to that I referred to it. Otherwise I would not at all have referred to it. The site at Napier Bridge is not unsuitable. But I think there will not be sufficient scope for having gardens and probably we will have to encroach on the Beach."

* Dr. P. Subbarayan :—" Mr. President, I would like to add my voice to that of my hon. Friend Mr. C. R. Reddi with regard to the kind of architecture that should be adopted in the construction of the new Legislative Council buildings. I would also further add that the Government should call for designs from various people and have a committee of this House to select the designs. I think that is much better than appointing a special architect or special engineer at great expense. There are architects in this country who would come forward with suitable designs reminiscent of the traditions of the Dravidian architecture; and as my hon. Friend from Chittoor suggested I feel it will not be right or proper for the Government to appoint a special engineer or a special architect in this connexion, because he will not know what will be the design, and if there is a change of design he will not be capable of adopting that change. I therefore feel it will be in the interests of the future legislature if the Government will adopt the procedure of calling for plans from the various architects concerned and then decide upon the suitable plan of building after consulting a committee of this House. No. hon. Member of this House knows the expenditure that may be involved in the building of the new legislature. I feel that

the House that is going to be built to accommodate the future legislatures of the Province will be worthy of the Province. But at the same time I feel that we should not waste money on the appointment of special engineers and special architects to whom we would have to be bound in some way. On the other hand it would be much better if designs are called for from achitects and a decision come to after inspection by a committee of this House."

* Diwan Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR :—" Mr. President, if I rise to speak to-day it is only to support Mr. C. R. Reddi, because on many occasions we saw eye to eye with each other for some years, though separated now. Sir, the Dravidian architecture, it is that thing that prompted me to stand up to-day. It is famous, it was famous in ancient days. The Dravidian architecture was copied by various countries in the ancient days. That will also satisfy not only the aesthetic sense of my friend Mr. Sreshta but also his acoustic sense. In that style of architecture, even though the halls are long, the sound will be heard to the utmost distance of the hall. I am extremely thankful to Mr. C. R. Reddi for having used that name 'Dravidian.' (Laughter.) That shows he is a patriot and I think he will be a perfect patriot if he would only come over to this side. (Loud laughter.) He also said that the material should be of indigenous origin. Yes, indigenous industry the Government is out to encourage. Have not our leaders of the House brought it in the State Aid to Industries Act? Is that not an instance of Government
2-30 sympathy to assist our industries? Of course those things that are
p.m. available in India, we can have from India. When we were discussing the Pykara scheme the Council was of opinion that every material should be got from India; but there was a long tube required and it seems it was available only in Poland. Whatever article that is available in India we should make use of for this building irrespective of the cost. We may perhaps have to pay a little more, but that we should not mind in view of the fact that we will be encouraging the indigenous industries. It means above everything else some solution of the problem of unemployment. I therefore wish very much that all the articles are got from India alone if they can be so got. If the Hon. the Finance Member takes up the thing immediately, the Council will be very much obliged because it will solve the unemployment problem in a way.

" As stated by my hon. Friend Mr. Sreshta, we in the House Committee feel the want of a garage here not only for motor cars but also for our coaches and rickshaws. (Laughter.) We are not ashamed of going in rickshaws. We can do more work going about in rickshaws than going about in motor cars. The councillors of the Corporation feel that rickshaws are better than cycles and motor cars to do our divisional work."

* Mr. C. R. PARTHASARATHI AYYANGAR :—" Sir, the very first idea that comes up before one's mind on seeing that we are going to spend

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a good lot of money is the oft-quoted saying 'A good style of architecture is heaven brought down to earth.' Are we going to make our building beautiful and bring heaven to earth? People who have built famous buildings have had this idea in them. The Emperor Akbar built the famous hall in Fatehpur-Sikri intending to emphasize upon all people the idea of unity, breadth of vision, and faith and goodwill. Why not we copy it? The central dome at Fatehpur-Sikri is still unrivalled and retains its exquisite gracefulness still. It is a masterpiece in architecture. Then we have the Hall of Audience of Shah Jehan in Delhi where he has written 'If there is paradise upon earth, it is this; it is this; it is this.' Would you like to have it copied here? It is so beautiful that one very much wishes to have a similar one in the south. The building that we require need not necessarily be Dravidian in character or style. It must be of a style that should appeal to all and should make us forget, on entering it, that we are separated by class, creed or race. It should be such as to inspire people on entering it that they are entering a holy place where justice alone will prevail and not caste or creed. That should be the dominant idea of the new building. It must have a very beautiful garden around it, if it can be had. We hope that people who are entrusted with the design and the construction will have this in mind, namely, that it will be a place where people would consider it a privilege to serve and a sacred duty to discharge."

* S. M. K. Beyabani Sahib Bahadur:—" Sir, I wish to add a few words only to what the previous speakers have already said. I feel that on an occasion like this we should give expression to our considered opinion. I entirely agree with the view of my hon. Friend Mr. C. R. Reddi when be emphasized the fact that while undertaking this work the Government should have in view the Dravidian architecture. I only wish to add that Government should not forget that India has lived long and it has enriched itself by many beautiful architectures. We have here the Taj which is one of the seven wonders of the world. Government are now going to spend a large sum of money in constructing a huge building which is going to be very important. I would not grudge spending even a larger sum on such an object. I only wish that the architecture that will come into existence will be, according to one of the English poets, 'a thing of beauty is joy for ever.' (Cries of :'Hear, hear'.) I do not mean to say that that building should exactly resemble Taj Mahal, but I do say that it should impress us with its beauty. For that purpose I think that the architects that will be employed on this building should have in view the Moghul architects particularly.

" Regarding the provision for housing the library and so on, my hon. Friend Mr. Sreshta has spoken at great length. I only wish to say that proper arrangements should be made for a good library building for the use of the Members who wish to benefit by it.

" One word more and I have done. I wish to invite the attention of Government to one very important factor. Ever since we came

into this Council we have been experiencing difficulties on account of the absence of a proper place for saying our prayers, particularly on Friday. Even on other days, according to their belief, Muslims are expected to pray five times a day and the most important prayer is the Friday prayer. I wish the Government provide a suitable place for prayer or worship. I do not think my hon. Friend Mr. Nambiyar who is laughing at me (laughter) is serious. We do require a place for worship and Government should give us a small decent place for that. I say that in future it will be all the more necessary because in the new legislature the number of Muslims will be 29. It will be very inconvenient for the Members to go out of the Council Hall to say their prayers. For the last fifteen years we have been experiencing the difficulty on account of the fact that on Fridays we have to go to the city to attend Jamma prayers. I suppose the Government are aware of the fact that the new Assembly Building that we are having at Delhi is a very fine monument. Unfortunately, somehow, even there this blunder has been committed. No provision has been made for prayers and, as a result of agitation of the hon. Members of the Assembly, I know for a fact, His Exalted Highness the Nizam of Hyderabad has contributed one lakh of rupees towards the construction of a mosque opposite to the Assembly Building. I understand that the Government are also giving an equal amount for this purpose. Whatever it may be, I think it is our just claim that we Members should be given a suitable place for saying our daily prayers and particularly our Friday prayers for which as I said we are now obliged to leave the Chamber and go to the city. I think I have sufficiently emphasized the need for providing a place for prayers because Government have already shown us consideration by adjourning the sittings of the House from 1 to 3 p.m. on Fridays and enabled us to offer our prayers with ease. I therefore once again make the request that the Government will not forget to see that a suitable place is provided for Muslims to offer their prayers. I hope my appeal will not go in vain. After all our demand is not reasonable. Muslims can offer prayers at any place, but only the place should be clean and neat. I hope the Government will consider this point."

* The Hon. Mr. G. T. H. BRACKEN:—" Mr. President, Sir, I am happy to think that there is very little for me to reply to and there is substantial agreement in the House as to what is proposed.

" I would first deal with the suggestion made by the hon. the Leader of the Opposition that a competition of designs should be held for the proposed building. Well, that was the first idea of the Government, but when looking into the matter we found that ultimately it would probably be great deal more expensive—and there were some technical difficulties about it—and that it would certainly delay the construction by a year. So the Government came back to the idea that it will be best to obtain a special architect who would not only design the building, but also supervise its construction.

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" The hon. Member from Chittoor complained that my statement was somewhat bald. At this stage it is rather difficult to give any detail. I explained that in July I might be in a position to give more information. My present idea is that the design or designs should be displayed in this House or in the Library for the criticism of hon. Members so that every one should have an idea of what the new building will be. Various hon. Members made suggestions on various points of detail and all those suggestions will of course be considered, but I see the cost of the building mounting up quite rapidly. As regards the type of building, the hon. Member from Chittoor and the hon. the Deputy President were for once in agreement that it should be Dravidian form of architecture. I am not quite sure what that means. Does it mean that it should be like gopuram? However, speaking personally, I am in sympathy with the idea of at least having an oriental design, whether it is Dravidian, Muslim or any other type. When I spoke of the design being in harmony with the other buildings, I was thinking particularly of the Chepauk palace now occupied by the Board of Revenue. That is only my personal view. A suggestion was made that accommodation might be provided for hon. Members. I think that suggestion is worth pursuing, but those buildings can be put up comparatively more rapidly and I think the new House ought to decide that particular question. 12-41 p.m.

" As regards the question of materials, the suggestions of hon. Members will of course be kept in mind. I think all that we can decide at present is that the building should be in keeping with the other buildings in the neighbourhood and certainly that it should be worthy of the new Legislature and of the Madras Presidency."

The motion was put and carried.

IV.—MOTION *RE* FINANCING OF ROAD DEVELOPMENT SCHEMES IN THE PRESIDENCY. [a]

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT :—" On the 25th February last an amendment [b] to the resolution of the Hon. the Raja of Bobbili was

[a] The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI :—

" This Council recommends to the Government that in order to carry out the scheme of road development outlined in the report of the Special Engineer for Road Development as far as the resources of the province permit, a loan be obtained. This Council further recommends that the loan be of such amount as can be financed (1) from this Government's share of the Road Development Fund, and (2) from the proceeds of tolls to be levied on bridges to be constructed or repaired in future out of the Road Development Fund or out of Loan Funds and that the loan be taken in instalments according to the amounts which it is found possible to spend."

[b] *Amendment.*

MR. T. S. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—

Omit all the words after the word ' Government ' in line 1 and *insert* the following :—

" that a Committee of this House be appointed to examine and report on the recommendations made by Mr. Vipan and the proposals made by the Hon. the Chief Minister."

moved by Mr. T. S. Ramaswami Ayyar, which was seconded by Mr. C. S. Ratnasabhapathi Mudaliyar and supported by Mr. Shetty. Sir A. P. Patro was speaking on that motion. If he likes he can now continue."

Sir A. P. Patro did not speak.

* Mr. K. R. VENKATARAMA AYYAR:—" Mr. President, Sir, I oppose the motion of the Hon. the Chief Minister. It is a resolution which is of considerable moment and involves very serious financial consequences. I think that beyond mentioning the name of Mr. Vipan to whom the hon. the Mover very properly referred as an experienced engineer, the Mover did not support his motion otherwise. The actual proposals of the Government were not adequately explained or elaborated and no data or arguments or authority were adduced in support of the Government's proposals. A perusal of the report of the hon. the Mover's speech almost made me form the impression that the Hon. the Chief Minister dealt with the subject as if it was one of easy assumption and as if his assertion one way rather than the other was decisive of the question. The matter, however, is by no means so simple as that. The question of road development has in the recent past attracted very considerable attention. In or about June 1928 the Royal Commission on Agriculture issued their report and in that report pointed attention was devoted to the subject of road development. It was pointed out that in the recent past the condition of the roads had rapidly deteriorated. It was also pointed out that the most important *desideratum* was the linking up of the major villages with the main road. The concern of the Road Development Committee which had then recently been formed was said to be primarily in regard to main roads. That did not touch even the fringe of the most important portion of any beneficial road development scheme. Again, more recently in 1933, this subject of road development received very much more detailed consideration at the hands of Mr. Mitchell, the Government of India Chief Engineer for roads, and Mr. Kirkness, the Railway Board Specialist. They produced a report which must be deemed to possess a very special authority in regard to this topic. They considered the whole question from all relevant aspects and really produced a very authoritative and weighty document embodying sound conclusions. I may almost say that they have laid down clear-cut propositions for the guidance of the Government of Madras and its special advisers on this question. I would go the length of saying that their report is almost a touch-stone for testing the soundness and feasibility of the present proposals of the Government.

" Now, if we turn to the Government's proposals and the speech supporting these proposals and the lead given by the Hon. Minister, the impression that is produced is that the proposals of the Government have all been supported and recommended by Mr. Vipan. I think that is a misleading impression. In regard to essential parts of the Government's proposals, far from recommending them, I find that Mr. Vipan has emphatically discountenanced them. I will mention illustratively

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two important portions of the Government's proposals. One of them relates to the railway feeder roads for which as much as about 14.58 lakhs is proposed to be borrowed and spent. Another relates to the improvement of the surface of certain selected roads of the very restricted length of about 112 miles in 12 selected districts out of a larger total of about 600 and odd selected roads discussed in Mr. Vipan's report spread over about 17 districts. Now in regard to both these essential portions of the Government's proposals Mr. Vipan has emphatically discountenanced them as absolutely unjustifiable proposals, if one thought of loan funds as funds to be utilized for such a purpose. In two consecutive chapters, Chapters IX and X of his report, Mr. Vipan has adduced very cogent reasons as to why these particular schemes should not be carried out from loan funds. In fact what is justifiable or legitimately the scope of use of loan funds in regard to road development is itself an important head of enquiry and on that topic the Mitchell-Kirkness report has urged and laid down a very clear and sound conclusion. That conclusion is that in order that it should be a paying proposition and in order that it should be to the benefit of the general population at large any road development scheme should involve all categories of roads and not be confined to any one category, as it is at present, the main roads. And emphasis is in particular laid—in this respect they are in agreement with the Royal Agricultural Commission—upon the importance of linking up major villages with the main road. It has been pointed out in the Mitchell-Kirkness report that even in a few districts—about six districts or so—there are as many as 1,444 major villages with a population of 1,000 and over which are not on the main road and which require to be linked up with the main road.

" The problem of road development is in its essence in the first instance the problem of connecting or linking up major villages with the main roads and the next immediate or urgent portion of the problem is the provision of adequate funds for the maintenance of the existing roads and next after that would come the provision of adequate funds for the increased maintenance charges arising out of the extended programme. So far as the improvement of the surface of roads is concerned, that is a matter which is more or less in the nature of a luxury which cannot be thought of at all as capable of being provided out of loan funds. 1 p.m.

" In regard to the enquiry made by Mr. Vipan, unfortunately it was a somewhat hasty and restricted enquiry. His questionnaire called for information from the various district boards only in regard to the existing roads and the existing pending schemes which were undergoing consideration, at whatever stage the consideration was, by the various district boards. In answering the question as the mileage of important roads in each district, each district board or its engineer went by his own idea as to what he deemed important. There was nothing like a basis or test laid down in the light of which

the answers could be made with anything like a uniformity. The result is that in big districts a small number of miles of road is shown as the length of important roads and in smaller districts a much larger number of miles of road is shown as the mileage of important roads. The whole basis of Mr. Vipan's report would require to undergo radical revision before the data in regard to this important topic could be regarded as reliable. And correspondingly the increased cost of mainteuance of the roadway to be maintained would also require to be increased. The scheme of repayment of the loan funds is also not worked out either in the note of the Goverument or in the report. If you work it out you will find that you will require not only seven years during which the experiment is to be spread for the execution of the first part of the new scheme of roads, but you will require another period of at least eleven years before you can repay the loan of 3 crores and 18 lakhs which is referred to in the Government note. Then the further unexecuted portion of Mr. Vipan's scheme will require further borrowing and a further extended period for repayment. After all, the scheme of Mr. Vipau is only a fragmentary scheme. What is more important at the present stage for the House to remember before it proceeds to a vote, is that in the name of Mr. Vipan, the Government have included two very important proposals, namely, railway feeder roads and road surfacing improvement both of which are condemned by Mr. Vipan as absolutely out of the question as parts of any loan funds scheme. What the House is now asked to do is to give its assent unreservedly to the whole scheme embodied in the Government proposals and also to an entire career or course of borrowing which in its repayment would spread itself over several decades. What is the justification, I ask, for the Hon. the Chief Minister, to commit future generations in this way?"

* Mr. P. PEDDI RAJU :—"Mr. President, Sir, I have great pleasure in supporting the amendment moved by Mr. T. S. Ramaswami Ayyar for more reasons than one. My hon. Friend from Madura has just now been explaining the position of road development according to the Mitchell-Kirkness report. Sir, the scheme submitted by Mr. Vipan has, I am sorry to say, not been understood by most of the persons who gave him the information. For instance, take the district to which I belong. There the District Board Engineer says that he was not asked to submit proposals about road development and that when once he submitted certain proposals of road development to the President, District Board, he was asked by the Special Engineer certain questions and required to furnish answers to the questionnaire. He did not at all go into the question of the needs of the district when he submitted his answers. I am sure similar instances occurred in other districts also, because I know two or three districts at least intimately. I find from the report that the most important communications and the most important bridges in those districts are not referred to at all. The questionnaire was simply this: 'Was there any proposal for a road;

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was there any estimate ready for it? If so, send it.' Every proposal already before the Board for which estimates were being prepared was sent to the Special Engineer. The Special Engineer made a list of them and sent it to Government. My submission to this House is that the report under consideration, though Mr. Vipan took six months to prepare it, does not contain any comprehensive survey of the requirements of the several districts in the Presidency. If you want to have road development you must have a more comprehensive survey and then attend to the pressing needs first. You must not confine yourself to individual items of work alone. That is my first objection and that is why I say that instead of depending upon Mr. Vipan's report we should have a committee of this House to enquire into the needs of the various districts and prepare a comprehensive scheme and then go in for loan funds.

" The next point is that the present proposals of the Government say that certain items of work should be given preference. The whole thing is divided into five or six classes. They want to borrow about three crores of rupees. The provision made for these items is divided into six heads. But Mr. Vipan in his report has divided them into five heads. Sir, I submit that the Government should either follow Mr. Vipan's report as regards the needs of the Presidency or reject it altogether.

" First of all I shall take inter-district roads. Mr. Vipan has sketched out a good plan of providing inter-district communications and has estimated that at least about 37 lakhs of rupees is necessary for inter-district communications. What have the Government done with respect to it? They have not made any definite provision for these roads, though in the details given on page 3 you will find some of the roads mentioned. Instead of a provision of Rs. 37 lakhs you find a provision of Rs. 17 lakhs being made for certain specified inter-district communications and not for all. I do not know how the selection was made. Is it on the basis that certain districts are more important and certain districts are unimportant? Otherwise I cannot find any reason why certain inter-district communications should be omitted and certain others alone should be included. For instance, Mr. Vipan has quoted at length the opinion of two Collectors—the Collector of Kistna and the Collector of West Godavari—to the effect that a certain road is most important both on administrative and economic grounds, but that road has been omitted altogether. I am only quoting that as an example; I am not at all complaining that my district has been neglected. I am only saying that the Government instead of following the recommendations of the Special Engineer in the matter of inter-district communications have entirely neglected them.

" Then, Sir, my hon. Friend from Madura has referred to two things—road surface improvements and railway feeder roads. They should not be financed from loan funds. But the Government have

made a provision of Rs. 23 lakhs for surface improvement over 112 miles. After all, as pointed out by Mr. Vipan no Board will be able to do the surfacing again at its own cost. Therefore the expenditure of Rs. 23 lakhs from loan funds will be a waste of public money, if we go on improving the surface of roads at the rate of a few miles each year. Another provision that is sought to be made is a sum of Rs. 13½ lakhs for plant. This is the total amount that will be needed, according to Mr. Vipan, if the whole scheme is taken up. But we are not taking up the whole scheme and therefore I do not see any reason why Rs. 13½ lakhs should be provided for. For you are going to spend nearly two crores on bridges alone. What for is the plant required? For the consolidation of the roads and watering the road surface. But when you spend most of the money on bridges, I do not see the necessity for any plant.

"As regards railway feeder roads Mr. Vipan asks for about Rs. 23 lakhs to be included in the scheme, but he says it is not a matter which should be financed from loan funds. All the same the Government want to make a provision of Rs. 14½ lakhs for this. Here also I shall show the absurdity of the provision sought to be made by the Government. Mr. Vipan says that about Rs. 3½ lakhs will be necessary for the Bengal-Nagpur Railway feeder roads, about Rs. 3½ lakhs for the South Indian Railway feeder roads and about Rs. 14½ lakhs for the Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway feeder roads. The provision made by the Government for the Bengal-Nagpur Railway feeder roads (that is to say roads in Ganjam and Vizagapatam) is the whole of what is asked for in Mr. Vipan's report. In the case of South Indian Railway feeder roads, while Mr. Vipan has said that Rs. 3½ lakhs would be sufficient the Government want to make a provision of Rs. 5½ lakhs. Whereas in the case of the Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway feeder roads which consist of most of the trade routes in the Presidency, where Mr. Vipan has suggested a provision of Rs. 14½ lakhs the Government want to make a provision of only Rs. 5½ lakhs. With whose consultation and under whose advice these provisions have been proposed, I am at a loss to know.

"The point next in importance is the scheme of bridges. The Government refer to certain incomplete works for which a provision of Rs. 16 lakhs is sought to be made and to certain works sanctioned by the Board of Communications at its meetings for which over a crore of rupees is sought to be provided. I am sorry to say that hon. Members of this House are not aware of the resolutions of the Board of Communications at its several meetings because they have not been furnished with copies of the same. Of course I am glad to say that I have obtained a copy of them recently in order to understand the meaning of the several provisions. I find from it that the Government have made certain selections out of the works recommended in Mr. Vipan's Report. I am sorry to say that so far as the annexure to the proceedings of the last meeting of the Board of Communications

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is concerned, I do not know under whose advice that list was prepared. For instance take my own district. The Government have sought to provide about 1,75,000 rupees for bridges. They have sought to provide Rs. 3,050 for a bridge on a third-class road. Is that such an important thing, the provision of a bridge on a third-class road, that it should be financed from loan funds? I know that this bridge is actually being constructed to-day.

"They want to provide for a bridge at a cost of Rs. 30,000 in another place, which is a bridge belonging to a panchayat; it is not on any important communication; it is a communication from the village to the fields. This is the way in which selection has been made. I am sorry to say that the Board of Communications did not consist of Members of the Council except Messrs. Palat and Bhanoji Rao. I only wish to say that the district boards and Members of the Council should have been better represented on the Board. I understand that the district boards were not asked to furnish a list of urgent schemes for their districts, before any provision was sought to be made for them. In order to obviate all these defects, I would request the Governmnt to accept this motion so that some Members of this Council who are conversant with some portions of the Presidency may be in a position to judge the necessities of each district and have a list prepared according to the necessities of the case." 1-15 p.m.

* Mr. R. M. PALAT:—" Sir, the opposition to take this loan is based upon two grounds, so far as I have been able to follow, namely, that a better selection of roads could have been made and that there is no immediate necessity for taking this loan. I will deal with each of these points in turn. First of all I will explain what actually happened in the case of our district, so that the House may know how these roads were selected. When we heard that Mr. Vipan was coming to our district, a circular was issued to all the members of the District Board of Malabar that Mr. Vipan was going to visit Malabar and that they might suggest any road which they thought was important and should be included in the new scheme. All the members of the Board were requested to meet Mr. Vipan when he came to Calicut. I am glad to say that certain members took advantage of this invitation; they did come to Calicut and met Mr. Vipan and discussed with him the merits of the schemes that were placed before him. So far as I know, Mr. Vipan consulted Chambers of Commerce and other commercial and other interests concerned; it is not true to say that only the President of the district board and the Collector were consulted. Mr. Vipan consulted all those who took an interest in the matter and may be expected to put forward road schemes. I would also say that the members of the district boards are more in touch with the people than hon. Members of this House. Members to the district boards are elected on a wider franchise; they know the needs of their own firka and the needs of the whole district better and forty

or fifty members of a district board may be trusted to deal more exhaustively with the district needs than a couple of Members of this House. It has been mentioned in this House that Collectors differ one from the other with regard to the necessity of certain roads. That is an accusation that can very well be made of the Members of this House itself. A certain Member of this House elected from a district may say to-day that a certain road is necessary; it is quite possible that the Member representing that district in the next Council may say that that road is not necessary but that it is some other road that is necessary. Therefore I do not think that that argument carries much weight. It is impossible for a Committee of this House to find the exact needs of the whole Presidency, unless the whole House is converted into a Committee and even though unwieldy as it would be, it is doubtful.

"What happened is this; various district boards in the Presidency put forward their schemes; Mr. Vipan went through them and selected such of them as he thought was in the general interest of the whole district, or Presidency.

"Coming to the next question as to whether it is necessary to borrow money, I want to say that the petrol fund which the Government of India are giving is less than Rs. 15 lakhs a year and it would be impossible within a reasonable time to work out even a part of the schemes which have been put forward, unless we take a loan. Moreover it is economically sounder to carry on these capital works on borrowed capital rather than from our current revenues. I would also impress on the House another aspect of the question. If we borrow the money and carry on the road scheme, we would be giving work to a lot of people in this country during these hard times, when people have neither money on hand nor work to do. I do not think it is necessary to go into the schemes in detail, because it is quite possible that two persons will have quite honestly two different views on any scheme, unless the schemes are so unexceptionable that nobody will controvert them, and which possibility it is most difficult to attain."

* Mr. P. PEDDI RAJU:—"On a matter of personal explanation, Sir, when I referred to the fact that none of the district boards were consulted, my hon. Friend, Mr. Palat, stated that they were consulted. To the best of my knowledge I can say that none of the district boards in the north were consulted in the matter. It may be that members of the Malabar District Board were consulted. But no member of the district board in our part of the Presidency was consulted, except the President of the district, the Chairman of the Municipal Council and the Local Board Engineers."

* Mr. V. T. ARASU:—"Sir, I think the motion moved by my hon. Friend, Mr. Ramaswami Ayyar, has received support from all sides of the House except from my hon. Friend, Mr. Palat. The argument advanced by Mr. Palat against this motion is that, if a Committee of

this House was constituted, each Member of the Committee will put forward his own pet schemes and therefore ultimately nothing will be done by the Committee. I would like to draw the attention of my hon. Friend, Mr. Palat, to what is happening in the Finance Committee. The Finance Committee which is elected by this House is transacting the business pertaining to the whole Presidency. Schemes for various districts in the Presidency are placed before the Finance Committee and the Finance Committee has always dealt with them fairly and squarely. I do not think any Finance Member of the Government of Madras has ever complained that the Members of the Committee put forward their own pet schemes and did not view the matters placed before them impartially. . ."

Mr. R. M. PALAT:—" Schemes are placed before the Finance Committee by the Government. But the suggestion here is that the Members of the Committee should make their suggestions in the matter."

* Mr. V. T. ARASU:—" My hon. Friend says that the suggestion is that the schemes should be put forward by the Members of the Committee. All that the resolution says is this:—

" A Committee of this house should be appointed to examine and report on the recommendations made by Mr. Vipan and the proposals made by the Hon. the Chief Minister."

" The proposals may be placed by the Government before the Committee and the Committee may be given the opportunity to examine the recommendations of the Government and to decide which schemes should be taken up first and which later.

" There is also another reason why a Committee of this House should be appointed. There is strong feeling in the minds of some hon. Members of this House that certain districts are being treated more liberally than other districts. Let us first take the allotments pertaining to bridge works. From the explanatory note provided by the Government, I find at page 2 that there are two columns. The first column gives the figures as recommended by Mr. Vipan at page 34 of his report. The second column gives the amounts proposed to be spent by Government. Take for instance, Vizagapatam. The total amount of money required according to Mr. Vipan is Rs. 16 lakhs. But the Government propose to spend about Rs. 4,50,000 that is very nearly one-third of the amount proposed by Mr. Vipan. But take the case of the Bellary district. The amount recommended by Mr. Vipan is Rs. 11 lakhs; but the Government propose to spend only Rs. 1,90,000. Take for instance the Ramnad district; the proposal of Mr. Vipan is to spend Rs. 13,25,000 for that district; but according to the Government proposal, only a sum of Rs. 3,31,000 has been made available to that district. For the East and West Godavari districts, large sums of money—very nearly 50 per cent of what Mr. Vipan recommended—are proposed to be spent by the Government. These figures support the feeling in certain sections of the House and elsewhere that certain

districts like Tanjore and Vizagapatam, are being treated in a more liberal manner than other districts of the Presidency. I think the Hon. the Chief Minister himself should welcome this motion, because he would be free from the blame that would otherwise be attached to him, that he has been liberal in the case of the Telugu districts as against the Tamil districts. I am not one of those who feel that any distinction should be made between the Tamil and the Telugu districts. But I am only expressing what I have heard about this matter. Therefore I think the Hon. the Chief Minister will welcome this motion and will be pleased to place the matter before the Committee of this House and to see that the schemes placed before the Committee by the Government are examined and adopted.

" There is another reason also. There is a feeling in certain quarters that in respect of schemes pertaining to the various districts individually certain unimportant roads are being taken up by the Government in preference to more important roads. With regard to my own district, Chingleput, I find that the Government propose to take up very unimportant village roads in preference to more important roads connecting more important villages and thickly populated areas. I think a Committee of this House would be quite competent to go into such grievances if they should exist.

" Only one more word. Mr. Palat stated that Members of the Malabar District Board were consulted. As regards my own district I may state that Mr. Vipan never consulted us; he may perhaps have interviewed the President of the District Board and the Collector. One important matter to which I should like to draw the pointed attention of this House is the case cited by Mr. Peddi Raju, of the construction of a bridge in his own district which has already been finished; the Government propose to pay the cost of construction of that bridge from this loan fund. It is ridiculous to think that the work which has been completed is going to be paid for by the Government under the present scheme. This is a scandalous state of affairs, to say the least. I hope the Hon. the Chief Minister would make enquiries in the matter and satisfy himself and the House that it is not true."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Further discussion will be resumed after lunch. I do not propose to receive any further amendments. We have already before us a very large number of amendments and I hope hon. Members will cover the whole agenda and finish the discussion on this item before this evening."

The House then adjourned for lunch.

(After Lunch—2-30 p.m.)

* The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI :—" Sir, with the idea of shortening the discussion on this motion, I have, on the previous day, replied to several of the points raised by my hon. friends; but the actual results have shown that my hopes have not been fulfilled, and I have not

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succeeded in curtailing the discussions. However, I am grateful for the expressions of opinion from hon. Members."

" I am afraid, Sir, there still seems to be some misapprehension in the minds of certain hon. Members that the Government are committing themselves to a very large scheme and are rushing through things. I also find from the speeches of various Members, for example, my Friend Mr. T. S. Ramaswami Ayyar, that various issues have been imported which are really outside the scope of this resolution. He said that in view of the economic depression and the necessity for adequate land revenue remissions, and in view of the present provincial finances, it is not wise to embark on any scheme from loan funds. In my speech, I have said more than once that the whole idea underlying the scheme is to finance this loan entirely from our share of the petrol subvention; and I am sorry that this point is, in spite of my repeated assurances, being overlooked. Every year this Province, as hon. Members are aware, receives about Rs. 14 or Rs. 15 lakhs from the Government of India from the petrol fund which is no doubt contributed by motorists throughout the Presidency. The idea is to borrow just sufficient money, so that our share of the petrol fund will be sufficient to pay the interest and the annuities. It is therefore perfectly clear that this expenditure is not going to be a charge on provincial revenues, nor is it going to prevent or restrict the amounts available to this Government for expenditure on other departments.

" As regards some of the points raised by hon. Members, with your permission, Sir, I wish to refer to them briefly. Mr. Ramaswami Ayyar has stated that the explanatory note does not give details of all items and that on that basis, Government should not commit this Council to this large expenditure. The explanatory note is never intended to give all these details, as they are contained in the report itself which has been in the hands of all hon. Members for a sufficiently long time. Only the salient features of the scheme have been mentioned in the explanatory note.

" As regards the bridge across the Coleroon, Mr. Ramaswami Ayyar read an extract from the report and stated, as an instance, that there has been a difference of opinion as to the exact location of this bridge. Mr. Ramaswami Ayyar is apparently referring to the opinion of the Collector. As far as Mr. Vipan's report is concerned, the definite location of the bridge has been decided by Mr. Vipan, and it is to be constructed at Tirumanur on the Ariyalur-Tanjore road.

" Another charge that has been made is that within the short time available before Mr. Vipan, it would have been impossible for him to devote the necessary attention, as much attention as the magnitude of the scheme required. I may state that although originally at the time Mr. Vipan's appointment was made he was placed on special duty for a period of six months, he was never forced to conform to a fixed time-limit. Subsequently, as it was necessary, his term was also extended. From that it will be seen that there has been no rushing through as

various Members were pleased to state, and that Mr. Vipan was allowed to take his own time to complete his report. As a matter of fact, his special duty spent on inspection and tours continued from 4th October 1934 to 7th March 1935, when his report was prepared.

"As regards the specific proposal for the appointment of a Committee, I have to repeat what I have already stated the previous day, that every care has been exercised to take into consideration the requirements of all the districts. Mr. Vipan has toured every district, has consulted both official and non-official opinion—the District Board Engineers, the Presidents of District Boards who have previously sent in their own reports on the requirements of their districts, the Collectors of the districts—and then finally evolved a scheme which in his opinion would meet the requirements of the various districts of the Presidency as a whole. Of course in a scheme of this kind it is impossible to include every scheme that could be conceived of and it is equally impossible to evolve a list which will receive the unanimous support of all the districts. But from what I have seen and heard of this report, I have no reason to disregard the impartial testimony of an experienced officer of the Government. Government are therefore prepared to give a finality to this matter in this respect. I have made it clear the other day that this does not tie the hands of this Government or the future Government either to accelerate the progress of the scheme or to slow-down the progress of the scheme or, if it is considered necessary to include particular schemes or works or bridges in this, there is nothing to prevent the Government from doing so. What we now wish to do is in order to enable the district boards to draw up a programme of future requirements and they might be in a position to know which schemes would receive the approval of the Government so that plans and estimates can be prepared at any time, to have a definite scheme before us. Experience has shown that every year large amounts of grants lapse and we have not been able to spend our share of the petrol fund fully within the year for the reason that the time required to conform to the various rules and to obtain the sanction of the Government of India as required by them, would be more than one year. It is therefore now proposed that there should be a definite programme of works extending over a period of seven years, and there should be no delay in starting the works and bringing them to a successful conclusion.

45 m. "I may draw the attention of hon. Members to the last page of the printed note where it is definitely stated how much money is estimated to be spent every year. From this note, it will be seen that it is not at all the intention to borrow Rs. 318 lakhs to-day or to-morrow. Many hon. Members seem to be under the impression that immediately this resolution is passed, Rs. 318 lakhs will be borrowed and immediately distributed among the districts. That is not the case. A perusal of the last paragraph of the note at page 5 will clearly show that during the year 1936–37, it is not proposed to take any loan, because the

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balance to the credit of our account is more than sufficient to meet the expenses this year. Next year, I mean for the year 1937–38, the expenditure is Rs. 45 lakhs, of which Rs. 28 lakhs will be met from the balances to the credit of our account and Rs. 17 lakhs will be borrowed, and so on.

"I may, therefore, state that we are not going to borrow this amount now, but only such amount as is necessary and as experience shows could be actually spent, will be borrowed. After having spent more than a year in the actual preparation of this comprehensive scheme of road development, with all respect to the Members who have made the suggestions, I feel, Sir, that if we are to carry out the scheme within a reasonable period of time, it will not be possible to do so if now a Committee is to be appointed. And if the Committee is going to be appointed, are they again to reopen the entire subject dealt with in Mr. Vipan's Report, or are they going to tour the districts and find out from personal knowledge the actual requirements of the districts concerned, again take public opinion and then are they going to prepare their own report? If that is not so, I think the suggestion to reopen the scheme prepared with such great care by Mr. Vipan with his personal knowledge during his long period of service in this Presidency, is not based on sufficient data. But if the idea is merely that the Committee should sit here and prepare their own schemes, I do not know how such a scheme would be more acceptable or acceptable at all to the district boards! And if we are to go on at this rate, I do not know when there will be any finality in regard to this matter.

"Of course, several hon. Members wanted to know how the present expenditure of about 318 lakhs is proposed to be distributed among the various districts. The total cost according to Mr. Vipan's Report comes to about 6 crores and 11 lakhs, but for the present, we have limited the programme to an amount of 3 crores and 18 lakhs, which in the opinion of this Government is the amount that can be safely borrowed so as to enable us to meet the annuities and interests from the petrol fund without causing any liability to provincial finances. This does not mean that the rest of the programme is going to be omitted. It will only mean that schemes which come under this list and which are estimated to cost about 3 crores 18 lakhs will be completed first and other schemes will follow afterwards.

"Now, as regards the allotments to the various districts, that has been done by the Secretariat having in view the number of schemes which district boards have got ready for immediate execution and having in view the total amount recommended by Mr. Vipan; taking these two things into consideration, these amounts have been fixed. One or two hon. Members have not hesitated, as usual, to impute motives to me as Minister in charge for having made these allotments; and it has been stated that some districts, especially the Vizagapatam district has been given 4½ lakhs and then the districts of West Godavari and East Godavari have been given more. I think my hon. Friend

Mr. Arasu has stated as his general opinion that the Andhra district are being favoured at the expense of the Tamil districts. I may stat that this is not the first time he has light-heartedly made similar charge without having any foundation. If more money has been allotted t the Telugu districts or to Vizagapatam, it is because their need i greater; and I may also state, if it will interest my hon. Friend, tha although I accept the fullest responsibility for these allotments in th first instance, these allotments have been drawn up actually by th Special Engineer in the Local Self-Government Department.

"Some hon. Members have raised the question whether adequat provision has been made for the maintenance of these roads. I woul like to draw the attention of hon. Members to the report and the not that has been prepared in which we have made a provision of abou 3½ lakhs reserved from our share of the petrol funds to be spent o maintenance and it is also proposed to cut down part of the cost o annual maintenance by undertaking special surface improvements Several hon. Members have raised the question as to why 2 or 3 lakh are proposed to be spent on part stretches of roads of a few miles an why only a few thousand rupees on long stretches. I may state tha these allotments have been made after careful investigation, afte taking a census of traffic on these roads and after taking into considera tion the amount of money that is being spent on this every yea for their maintenance. If therefore a couple of lakhs is proposed t be spent on a stretch of road which is only 10 miles, it does not mea that any special favouritism is being shown for that area, but becaus Mr. Vipan felt that taking the present requirements of the roads, traffi census and the previous expenditure on each, these roads have not bee able to be maintained in a satisfactory state of repair, and so in th long run it will be a measure of economy to make such investments o these roads. All these recommendations were based on data collecte at considerable trouble and not in an hap-hazard manner.

"As regards railway feeder roads, I think, it was my hon. Frienc Mr. Venkatarama Ayyar who stated that there was some unfairnes because one railway, the Bengal-Nagpur Railway, which serves th Vizagapatam and Ganjam districts, has been allotted more, that th Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway has been allotted less than what Mr. Vipan has recommended and that the South Indian Railway also gets a very small proportion."

Mr. K. R. Venkatarama Ayyar:—"On a matter of personal explanation, Mr. President. My point was that Mr. Vipan absolutely discountenanced any scheme of railway feeder roads being financed from loan funds."

* The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—"It may be so and I am not disputing that point and it is quite clear in black and white. I am only replying to the accusation that these allotments. . . (Mr. K. R. Venkatarama Ayyar: 'I never said like that')—I believe it was Mr. Peddi

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Raju—that these allotments have not been made with reference to the actual requirements of the case, but only with a view to favour certain listricts. I have no time to go through all the speeches made, but I presume, subject of course to further examination, the reason why a arger amount has been allotted to the Bengal-Nagpur Railway which serves the Vizagapatam and Ganjam districts, would be that a new ine has been opened connecting Vizianagram and Raipur, through the Agency tracts. It is therefore natural that the need for railway feeder roads connecting railway stations to the trunk road is more in that area.

" As regards the point raised by my hon. Friend, Mr. Venkata-rama Ayyar that Mr. Vipan was opposed to the expenditure of any noney on road surfacing and railway-feeder roads from loan funds, I may state that really all this programme is not going to be met from oan funds, but only such of the money that is required in addition to our annual share of the petrol fund will be met from loan funds.

" As regards railway feeder roads, as far as I know, Mr. Vipan's view was not that they are less important or that they should not be spent from loan funds. His view really was—which I gathered from personal discussions with him—that because they are going to be of great benefit to the railways also, a part of the cost of these should be contributed by the railways themselves. Mr. Peddi Raju asked about the plant why the whole of the 13 lakhs 58 thousand which is the otal amount estimated by Mr. Vipan in his report, is required when Government are not going to take up the full scheme contained in the report. I would like to draw his attention to pages 8 and 9 of the eport, from which you will find that this estimate of the plant equired was drawn up with reference to the existing mileage of roads. The opinion of Mr. Vipan was that this grant was insufficient to mprove the existing mileage of the roads and that therefore it is of he utmost importance that we should provide these rollers without any oss of time. As I have already stated the other day, I may again nention, that the Provincial Board of Communications whose function t is, met and considered the various schemes, before they were sent to he Government of India for their approval. Some Members of this House are represented on that Board and there are also some District Board Presidents on the Board. In regard to my hon. Friend Mr. Peddi Raju's remark, I can only say that in regard to these matters you an only have a limited body of manageable dimensions to transact usiness and I do not see why it should be considered that having two r three M.L.Cs. on the Board is insufficient representation. Greatest are has been taken to constitute the body and every interest is repre-ented. In the original scheme also, as far as possible, opinion, both fficial and non-official in the districts, has been collected; and am afraid, I am not in a position to accept this proposal which n effect would really mean shelving the entire scheme, going nto the whole question again and trying to prepare another report.

I may also mention that one of the objects of the scheme of taking up this large programme of public works is to provide employment in the rural areas to mitigate the rigours of the present depression.

m. "Several hon. Members have stated that prominence has been given to a certain road between two unknown villages. I think it is Mr. Arasu that said that some of the bigger roads are neglected."

Mr. V. T. ARASU :—"I said as far as my district is concerned."

* The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI :—"Even so far as that district is concerned, the main object is to provide communications where they did not exist, and to provide communications in villages and undeveloped areas in order to afford better marketing facilities for the agricultural produce. So the greatest care has been exercised in drawing up this programme. I do not see any reason why matters should be re-opened at this final stage. I hope in view of the explanations given by me the hon. Member will not press his amendment."

* Diwan Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGAM CHETTIYAR :—"The Hon. Minister has raised a number of issues in replying to this motion for the appointment of a committee to examine the matter. Sir, one point which is very important among the things that he dealt with to-day is the question of committing this Council and this Province to the extent of all that is possible to raise in this Province for road development. Sir, it is a very big issue. He wanted to belittle the issue by saying, 'it is open to this Government or to the next Government to change the policy.' Sir, it is only in words that we can argue like that. When once big works are undertaken and a beginning is made it is impossible to stop them. Sir, when once we sanction a scheme of large works, whatever the amount that may be allotted in the current year or in the next year, we commit ourselves to the extent of the whole amount that is necessary to complete those works which have been started. Such being the case the argument of the Hon. the Chief Minister that it does not commit this House or this Government to more than what is going to be sanctioned in each year is not, I beg to submit, Sir, quite correct. There are two things that he actually wants us to do. One is to deal with the amount he has now got at the disposal of the Government in the petrol subvention. Now he wants the whole of that to be mortgaged and money to be raised for the purpose of a scheme which he wants us to approve of. I have already submitted, Sir, in another connexion that it is not fair that this Council and the present Government should commit all our available resources in this particular way. It may be that the new Council may have different views of spending the money that can be raised from these sources. It is not fair, as I said the other day, with a Council which has been extended thrice already and on the eve of new reforms when we are expecting that more responsibility would be thrown on the Council to commit the future Government, to this scheme and take away the money the future Government is rightly entitled to spend in its own way. That, Sir, is a very important argument which the Hon. the Chief Minister has not met."

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* The Hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The suggestion contained in the amendment is for the appointment of a committee of this House. "

Diwan Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGAM CHETTIYAR :—" I am only replying to what has been stated by the Chief Minister. He said that it is only a few lakhs we are dealing with and since we are not going to borrow any money in the current year there is no objection for accepting the scheme. "

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI :—" I never said anything of the kind. "

Diwan Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGAM CHETTIYAR :—" He said he had 17 lakhs and that it is open to this House to stop the expenditure next year. "

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI :—"I never said that because there is no loan this year you should pass this. I have just indicated how much is necessary and how much is to be borrowed each year. My argument never was because there is no loan this year the grant should be made without considering the other aspects."

Diwan Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGAM CHETTIYAR :—"Well, Sir, that is how it stands. So the Chief Minister has now admitted that it is not merely what he asks now that is to be considered but the whole scheme is to be considered. That is admitted. I again repeat that it is not fair to this House to commit the future Council and the future Governments to this scheme involving a very large amount—practically the only amount that will be at the disposal of the future Government for the purpose of any big scheme of road development. It is not at all fair. Secondly it may be argued that somebody has to do it and so we are doing it. It is not correct. It is not merely a question of utilizing the money for a particular purpose for which it is now proposed to be spent. I have already indicated that the future councils may give more prominence to market feeder roads and third-class roads. Sir, the trunk roads and main roads are in good condition. No doubt they can be improved. But what is the position of the third-class and village roads? They are in a most deplorable condition. The other day the District Board of Coimbatore sent its budget to the Government and the Government proposed the deletion of the provision for the third-class and village roads because the Board was not able to balance its budget. The village roads have to be taken care of. The district board has to choose between resurfacing, as it is called, a few miles of trunk road—and what is provided for our district is 4 lakhs for 10 or 12 miles of resurfacing,—and the improvement of village roads. Supposing the district board is given the choice, they may say, we are prepared to give up resurfacing a few miles of trunk roads in favour of improvement of 100 miles of third-class roads. The question will be which is better for the district. Is it fair that Government sitting here should decide that the four lakhs available for Coimbatore should be spent for resurfacing 12 miles of road in preference to 100 miles of third-class

and village roads? That is a question which will have to be considered not by Government sitting here but by the district board concerned. Then again, Sir, the Hon. the Minister said that Mr. Vipan was not asked to rush through the enquiry, and that he has taken all available information. The discussion in this Council has shown that except in the district of Malabar no district board was taken into confidence in making the proposals. It may be the presidents of district boards have been asked. That is a different matter altogether. But the district boards as such who have got the responsibility of looking after the roads or communications have not been consulted. That has not been denied by the Minister. Well, I beg to submit that if any money is available for the purpose of being spent on communications it is the district boards that ought to be asked as to how the money will be spent. In this case the district boards have not been asked. I find an amendment given notice of by such a prominent member of the party to which the Hon. the Chief Minister belongs as Sir A. P. Patro, saying that the district boards ought to be consulted again before final effect is given to the recommendations. That shows the feeling of the House apart from the result of the voting on account of loyalty to the party. Even on the other side there is no unanimity with reference to the merit of this resolution and they themselves are not quite clear that all that is fair and proper has been done by this arrangement. Well, Sir, there are these big questions which again will have to be considered. As I said, the only amount that is available is this subvention and the whole of it is to be mortgaged. What is to become of the roads in the towns? The municipal roads are not provided for. Then there is the question of the railway feeder roads and village roads. These are days of rail-road competition. We have heard so much about it from the discussions in the Assembly. Now, Sir, the question arises if we are going to improve our roads in this particular way; my friend Mr. Venkatarama Ayyar has worked out the figures and says that it costs Rs. 20,000 a mile. If we are going to spend moneys in that way with regard to the main roads, then what is to become of the other interests? I already referred to the interests of the villager so far as the village roads and market feeder roads are concerned. I know one argument is generally advanced that even the villager uses a portion of the trunk road. But that is only after coming to the trunk road. Before coming to the trunk road he has to see that his cart is all right. If his cart cannot come to the trunk road there is no use for him if the trunk road is made all right.

15 n. "This question, Sir, of the competition between rail-road and the bus-road has also to be taken into consideration. Even if we are going to neglect it here, I hope that when the matter goes to the Government of India they will take note of it and see that the bus roads are not improved to the detriment of the village roads and market feeder roads. I hope the Government of India at least will consider it in case the Hon. the Chief Minister does not want that we should do anything to interfere with his scheme.

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" Well, Sir, my time is up, and I do not want to say anything more except this. All that is asked for in this resolution is that the matter should be further considered. Of course, the Hon. the Chief Minister said that there will be delay in referring the matter to a committee and that after so much time lost already we will be losing more time. But before beginning a big scheme like this, it is certainly better to think properly, to think well, rather than start the thing and then be sorry afterwards for what was done. So, Sir, I would appeal to him that even though he may have a majority here which on account of the loyalty it feels may vote for him, in a very serious matter like this, where especially on the eve of the Reforms we are mortgaging all our available resources, it is not fair to press his pet scheme and rush the matter. At least a committee of this House should go into the question carefully. After all, the time lost is not going to be much. The matter may come up in July before this House. I do not think we are going to lose very much between now and July. In a matter like this where several crores are concerned, it is only fair that a proper opportunity should be accorded to the representatives of this House to go into this question and then a decision come to."

Mr. T. S. Ramaswami Ayyar :—" Sir, I do not want to enter into details and take more time of the House after the elaborate reply given by my hon. Friend Mr. Ramalingam Chettiyar. But I desire to state at the outset that my resolution is a fair one, and I thought it would appeal to all the Members of this House. I merely said that a committee consisting of the Members of this House might be appointed by the Government to go into this question. I did not say that there is anything intrinsically wrong in the scheme. But when you put forward a scheme like this and when hon. Members have pointed out that there are even now deficiencies and that it is not entirely a perfect scheme, I think the House is entitled to have its opinion heard on the question, that a committee of this House should go into the matter. I am afraid the Government is very sensitive on matters like this. When I heard the Hon. the Chief Minister speaking of charges being levelled, I was thinking over what I said. I do not think I levelled any charge against any Member of the Government. It is I think an inherent right of this House to get more information when a scheme like this is put forward. When $3\frac{1}{2}$ crores of the future income of this Presidency are going to be spent on a vote like this, I think it is but fair for the Members of this House to ask for more information and to ask for a committee. I do not see any reason why the Hon. the Chief Minister should say that 'one charge against the proposal is this; another charge is this.' It is not a question of charges. It is a privilege of this House. . . ."

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili :—" I said 'charge' because it is really a serious charge to say that the distribution has been made among districts out of favouritism and not according to the actual requirements of the places."

Mr. T. S. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—" Sir, I was not responsible for such a remark. He presumed I wanted to know where these funds are to come from, and he tried to explain to me that they came from the loan account. But the question is not where the funds come from. After all, wherever the money comes from, it does not matter. But it is our concern how we are going to spend it. Whether the funds come from the reserves or from revenues or from loans, it does not matter. When we are going to spend $3\frac{1}{2}$ crores which will be a charge on the future income of this Province, is it not the privilege of this House to get better information and also ask for an opportunity to examine the scheme by a committee of this House? I thought it was a privilege inherent in every Parliament. I do not think that this House should be denied that privilege. After all, the Hon. the Chief Minister referred to a committee consisting of some hon. Members; two hon. Members on this side got representation there. Nothing can be said against it. But the question is whether all shades of opinion have been consulted, whether all district boards have been consulted. Sir Patro himself stated that the district boards should be given an opportunity. I think this is the barest justice that should be accorded to the Members of this House. I feel strongly that it is a privilege of this House to examine this question more thoroughly. I, therefore, press this motion, and I also intend asking for a division."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—" The question is—

' Omit *all the words after the word " Government " in line 1 and* insert *the following*:—

" *that a Committee of this House be appointed to examine and report on the recommendations made by Mr. Vipan and the proposals made by the Hon. the Chief Minister* ".' "

The amendment was put and declared lost.

Mr. T. S. RAMASWAMI AYYAR demanded a poll, which was taken with the following result:—

Ayes.

1 Dr. P. Subbarayan.
2 Mr. K. R. Venkatarama Ayyar.
3 Diwan Bahadur T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar.
4 Mr. T.S.Ramaswami Ayyar.
5 ,, V. T. Arasu.
6 ,, M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar.
7 ,, A. M. Ahmed Meeran Sahib.
8 ,, P. Peddi Raju.
9 Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder.
10 Diwan Bahadur C. S. Ratnasbhapati Mudaliyar.
11 Mr. K. Koti Reddi.
12 ,, G. Rameswara Rao.
13 ,, N. Halasyam Ayyar.
14 Rao Bahadur R. K. Venugopal Nayudu.
15 Mrs. A. Rukmani Lakshmipathi.

Noes

1 The Hon. Rai Bahadur Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu.
2 ,, Rao Bahadur A. T. Pannirselvam.
3 ,, Sir Charles Souter.
4 ,, Mr. G. T. H. Bracken.
5 ,, Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar.
6 ,, Mr. P. T. Rajan.
7 The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili.
8 Diwan Bahadur C. Natesa Mudaliyar.
9 Mrs. K. Alamelumangathayaramma.
10 Mr. W. Scott Brown.
11 ,, H. R. Uzielli.
12 ,, G. T. Boag.
13 ,, T. B. Russell.
14 ,, R. Madanagopal Nayudu.

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Noes—cont.

15 Mr. T. Sundara Rao Nayudu.
16 Khan Sahib Syed Tajuddin Sahib Bahadur.
17 Mr. R. M. Palat.
18 ,, I. C. Iswaran Pillai.
19 Diwan Bahadur R. Srinivasan.
20 ,, A. Appadurai Pillai.
21 Khan Bahadur Yahya Ali Sahib Bahadur.
22 Mr. M. Devadasan.
23 Rao Sahib N. Siva Raj.
24 Mr. P. C. Moses.
25 ,, V. G. Vasudeva Pillai.
26 ,, J. M. Smith.
27 ,, N. Ranganatham.
28 ,, W. P. A. Soundara Pandiyan.
29 Rao Sahib V. Dharmalingam Pillai.
30 Rao Bahadur D. Krishnamurti.
31 Sriman M. G. Patnaik Mahasayo.
32 Kumaraja of Venkatagiri.
33 Khan Bahadur Mahmud Schamnad Sahib Bahadur.
34 Zamindar of Bodinayakkanur.
35 Mr. Daniel Thomas.
36 ,, G. Sriramulu.
37 Mr. I. Kuppuswami Choudari.
38 Mr. C. Indrayya.
39 Rao Sahib M. Vedachala Mudaliyar.
40 ,, C. Jayaram Nayudu.
41 ,, Pandit Ganala Ramamurti.
42 Mr. A. Harischandrudu Nayudu.
43 ,, K. Kesavaramamurti Nayudu.
44 ,, I. Santhana Gounder.
45 ,, K. P. Raman Menon.
46 ,, G. R. Premayya.
47 Rai Sahib C. Kolanda Reddi.
48 Mr. M. S. Sreshta.
49 ,, J. A. Davis.
50 Rao Sahib V. I. Muniswami Pillai.
51 Mr. A. Ramakrishna Reddi.
52 ,, S. M. K. Boyabani Sahib.
53 Diwan Bahadur M. Gopalaswami Mudaliyar.
54 Rao Bahadur Subadar-Major S. A. Nanjappa Bahadur.
55 Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari.
56 ,, C. Basu Dev.
57 ,, Mahboob Ali Baig.
58 ,, P. V. Rajagopala Pillai.

Ayes 15. *Noes* 58.

The amendment was lost.

* Mr. P. PEDDI RAJU :—" Sir, I beg to move—

' Add *the following at the end* :—

" *This Council further recommends that out of such loan a sum of Rs.* 50 *lakhs be set apart for the construction of bridges and culverts in the Godavari and Kistna delta areas.*" '

" My object in moving this motion, Sir, is not to favour either the Kistna or the Godavari district; but in the matter of construction of bridges and culverts, I have been asking the Government from a very long time for several years that so far as the deltas are concerned there must be bridges and culverts constructed at the expense of the irrigation funds. Last year, the Hon. the Revenue Member was pleased to say that the matter will be investigated. But till now no such investigation has been made so far as I know, nor has any assurance been given this year in spite of my request. Why I have raised this question is this. In the Cauvery-Mettur Project area, from the irrigation fund itself they spent more than half a crore of rupees on the construction of culverts and bridges. In addition to that, in the present loan scheme the Government want to provide 5 lakhs for the construction of bridges and culverts in the West Tanjore district in the new Cauvery-Mettur Project area and also about Rs. 4·96 lakhs in the Kattalai scheme area for the said purpose. I raise this question because the Government want to spend out of loan funds also to construct bridges and culverts in areas in which new irrigation has been opened. If the Government having spent half a crore of rupees in the Cauvery-Mettur Project area are considerate enough to give another ten lakhs for the same delta, my question

is why the Government should not consider the question of constructing bridges and culverts in the Godavari and Kistna deltas. If they say that because these are new projects the Government want to construct those things, I wish to draw the attention of the Government to the new projects in the Godavari and Kistna delta areas also.

-30 m. "There are the Polavaram Island Project in the East Godavari district, the Divi Island Project in the Kistna district and Kalipatnam, the *Losarigutlapadu and* other projects. So if Government are careful enough to provide a certain amount for the new projects in the south, I ask why similar treatment should not be meted out for new projects in the northern districts also.

"I am not very particular about my own district, but it is a question of meting out equal justice to all districts. What you propose to do for the Cauvery-Mettur delta, I want the same thing to be done for the two deltas in the north. So far as the scheme is concerned, it provides for construction of bridges and culverts over existing communications, i.e., over roads already formed. What I want is construction of bridges and culverts in areas where there are new irrigation projects or in the old irrigation areas where people cannot go to their fields without crossing a channel. I ask whether Government are prepared or not to undertake a more liberal scheme, whether it costs 25 lakhs or 50 lakhs, for constructing bridges and culverts in the two deltaic areas.

"Another point is, the scheme of Mr. Vipan provides for about 6 lakhs and odd for construction of bridges and culverts, but I am sorry to see that the Government have neglected or at least the scheme does not provide for works on existing communications. I am told, Sir, that our district board has sent in a list of bridges and culverts to be constructed on existing communications, especially on second-class and third-class roads, which comes to more than 7½ lakhs, but that list has been completely ignored and a new list is given by Mr. Vipan. What I ask Government is whether they are going to complete the existing communications or keep them as they are and go in for new ones.

"That is another important factor. After all, the money that is sought to be provided for is two lakhs on some communications. This is nothing when compared with the 50 lakhs of works in the original list furnished by the district boards. When this is so in the case of my own district, I think much more will be required for the other districts of East Godavari and Guntur. It is not an individual favour I am asking. I do not grudge Government giving any amounts for the works that are necessary. What I say is these deltaic districts are not treated fairly. Godavari East is given 2 lakhs, Godavari West 2 lakhs, Guntur about 2 lakhs and odd, and Kitsna about a lakh—these are the four deltaic tracts in the north—whereas Vizagapatam is given 4½ lakhs, Malabar 8 lakhs and so on. Is it not necessary to provide more bridges and culverts in the deltaic areas? Government should find out the needs of each district and dole out money according to the necessities of each

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case. The Hon. the Chief Minister has been saying that we are laying a charge of partiality at his door. It is not so. I say the amount proposed to be given to my district is not sufficient. Apart from surface metalling and other things, the deltas require special treatment so far as the construction of bridges and culverts are concerned, and the treatment meted out to them should be on a par with the treatment meted out to the Cauvery-Mettur Project area."

* Mr. V. T. Arasu :—" Sir, I rise to second the amendment moved by my Friend Mr. Peddi Raju. Only this morning I pointed out how Tanjore is being treated most liberally by the Government. We find from the explanatory note furnished to us that Government propose to allot a sum of Rs. 4·96 lakhs for constructing bridges and culverts in the Mettur Project area and 4 lakhs for the construction of roads in the Mettur Project area in the Tanjore district besides a sum of Rs. 3·64 lakhs for other bridges. That is, a sum of over 12 lakhs is proposed to be spent in that delta. So I ask why similar treatment has not been meted out to the deltaic areas in the north, in East Godavari and West Godavari districts. I should like to take this opportunity to remove any misapprehensions that may be in the minds of members of this House. I am not one of those who create antagonism between Tamil district and Telugu district. I am the last person to do it, and nothing is farther from my mind. All I wish to point out is that certain districts are beiug treated more liberally than others. I think in this instance the Hon. the Chief Minister would not say that I am speaking without any responsibility or without facts. I am speaking on facts and I think these facts cannot be denied. When 9 lakhs are proposed to be spent over a small area, I think, on the taluks of Tanjore and Pattukkottai, I do not see any reason why 50 lakhs should not be allotted for the three or four districts forming the Kistna and Godavari delta. With these words, I support the amendment."

Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari :—" Sir, I am also coming from a deltaic district. So I thought it my duty to speak on this amendment. We want only such treatment to be given to these deltas as is given to others. We want to appeal to the Hon. the Chief Minister to be more liberal to these deltas. No doubt the Hon. the Chief Minister, being a Telugu gentleman, may feel that motives will be attributed to him if he gives more money to a Telugu district. But he must not on that account allow any injustice to be done to any district. With these observations I request the Hon. the Chief Minister to see that these districts get a fair treatment at his hands."

* The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili :—" Sir, I understand that the object of the amendment is to draw the attention of the Government to the fact that West Godavari should receive the same treatment as the Cauvery-Mettur Project area. As far as I can see, the Cauvery-Mettur Project area is a new project; it is snpposed to open up an undeveloped area; and it is therefore necessary to provide new roads and bridges to serve future requirements. As regards the deltaic districts of Kistna, West Godavari, Guntur and East Godavari, I may state that we have

made a special provision of nearly 20 lakhs or so, for metalling the roads. Apart from that, there is a project scheme for Godavari costing about 48 lakhs and for Kistna costing about 20 lakhs. That is mentioned in the major project works. I therefore feel that in the matter of works these districts have not been neglected. Of course in the list drawn up for spending 3 crores 18 lakhs good provision has not been made for these projects. These big projects will take some years to complete. They also require the sanction of the Government of India. But I may state that these works will not be delayed for lack of funds. As a matter of fact, I wish to make this point clear that our programme of provision was made with reference to the ability of the district boards to carry on works efficiently and economically. I may assure the hon. Members of the various districts that there is no fear that schemes provided for their districts will be left out. Under these proposals, if approved by this House, there will be sufficient funds available to carry on all these works within a period of seven years or so. Some hon. Members have asked whether it is the policy of the Government to only improve the existing roads or open up new areas. The policy is two-fold, (1) to provide communications where they do not exist at present, and (2) to make the existing roads fit for traffic during all weathers.

" It may be a few areas here and there have been left out; but I am sure hon. Members will realize, considering the magnitude of the problem before us, that we cannot at a stretch, programme to provide communications to every village. Even this scheme which has been very carefully considered is going to cost us nearly $6\frac{1}{2}$ crores and will take more than a decade to complete. I may therefore assure hon. Members that all the schemes contained in this report will come up for execution in their order, and the districts of West Godavari, East Godavari, Guntur, etc., will not be neglected. I hope in view of my assurance the hon. Member will feel that the object with which he moved this motion will be achieved, and will not press it. As I stated, though these motions have my sympathy, I cannot accept them as that would certainly have the effect of not only mutilating the original scheme proposed, but will also unduly tie the hands of Government. For example, if you take the bridge on the Godavari, it will take a long time to prepare the plans and estimates. In such a case no useful purpose will be served by providing for it in the first instance. That money could be as well spent for other schemes. From that it should not be inferred that the construction of the Godavari bridge will be put off indefinitely. That is not the intention of Government. I hope the hon. Member will not, in view of what I have said, press his amendment."

Mr. P. PEDDI RAJU :—" Sir, I wish to say a few words before. . . ."

Mr. K. R. VENKATARAMA AYYAR :—" Sir, I would like to speak on his motion. But if the hon. Mover is withdrawing it I am not speaking."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Mr. Venkatarama Ayyar wants to know whether the hon. Member is withdrawing or pressing his motion."

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Mr. K. R. VENKATARAMA AYYAR :—" Sir, if he wants to withdraw I do not want to take up the time of the House."

Mr. P. PEDDI RAJU :—" I am withdrawing, Sir."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Mr. Peddi Raju is withdrawing the motion." (Laughter.)

Mr. P. PEDDI RAJU :—" Sir, as I said, I am not asking that my district should be favoured or anything of the sort. All that I said was, as the Hon. the Chief Minister pointed out, that in the Cauvery-Mettur Project area, because it is a matter of new development, they have provided a very large sum of money. That is all my complaint. You will see, Sir, under the Bridge Scheme, Rs. 4,97,000 is provided for bridges in the Cauvery-Mettur area, and under the Road Scheme about 7 lakhs have been provided for the same area, i.e., 4 lakhs for Tanjore and 3 lakhs for Trichinopoly. My complaint is that there are similar new irrigation projects in Godavari and Kistna deltas. For instance, in Godavari we have the Polavaram Project and the Divi Project. These new projects have been recently worked out and there is absolutely no method of reaching any village either by road or by crossing a channel. It is much more difficult than in Tanjore. The new projects in Kistna delta areas are worse and water-logged and, as I said, when the Government took care to see that the new project areas in the south are given due attention, they ought not to have left the northern districts. That is my complaint. But, in view of the assurance that the scheme as formulated in the Vipan report is not final and that the Government will consider the position in the northern districts later on and see what can be done, I beg leave to withdraw the motion."

The amendment was, by leave, withdrawn.

* Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER :—" Sir, with your permission, I shall move all the three amendments standing in my name and to save time they may be put to vote one after another—

I move—

(1) *In line* 8, *after the words* ' *be levied on,*' insert *the word* ' *major;*'

(2) *In line* 8, delete *the words* ' *or repaired;*' *and*

(3) Add *at the end the following, namely*—

' *This Council also recommends that the construction of major bridges of inter-district communication be taken up first in preference to other works.*'

" Sir, the first amendment has been moved with the object of seeing that the levy of tolls should be made only on major bridges. As it stands in the resolution of the Hon. the Raja Sahib, it reads ' from the proceeds of tolls to be levied on bridges.' If it is allowed to stand like that, it may give room for the levy of tolls on all bridges, whether small or big, which the Government are going to construct. If this state of affairs comes to happen, it will cause a good deal of difficulty

to the ryot population. Tolls were abolished some time ago and it gave a great relief to the agriculturists. Now if the tolls are to be introduced again in a wide form under the terms of this resolution of the Hon. Minister, it will inflict a great hardship on the poor ryots. In the matter of the levy of tolls, it has been repeatedly pointed out that agriculturists are already contributing their share towards the cost of roads and bridges in the shape of land-cess and that therefore they are at liberty to use the roads and bridges. If you are going to have tolls and again collect another tax from them, it would be rather very hard indeed. With that object in view I gave my fullest support for the abolition of tolls and that conferred a boon on the ryot population. If now the levy of tolls is to be made on bridges constructed or repaired, it will be a great disadvantage. As for my part, generally, I want to see that the tolls are not reintroduced in any form—but I am aware of the fact that if we insist that tolls should not be levied even on major bridges constructed at a considerable cost, the Government will say that they would not be able to pay back the loans raised unless the tolls were levied at least on such bridges. That is why I say that we should restrict this levy of tolls to the major bridges only.

"As regards my second amendment, viz., to delete the words 'or repaired,' I would like to say that the fact that some cost has been incurred for the repairs of a bridge, should not be a ground for levying tolls. Those bridges are already there and the people are using them without paying anything. If for a small repair they are asked to pay tolls, it will be very hard on them. That is why I am limiting the levy of tolls to new bridges constructed at considerable cost.

"My third amendment is to the effect that a work which is more important in giving easy communication to two districts should be taken up first. From a perusal of the explanatory note furnished to us, I find that an important work which concerns the districts of Trichinopoly and Salem has not been taken due notice of and the importance of it has not been realized. It is a work which has been engaging the attention of the public for a very long time and which has been placed before the Government several times. I am referring to the bridge which has to be built across the Cauvery at Pugalur connecting Salem and Trichinopoly districts. But, Sir, this finds place in Mr. Vipan's report on pages 30 and 32 and is estimated only at Rs. 8 lakhs and odd from the allotment of about Rs. 3 crores made, but I am not sure that the said bridge has been provided for. With regard to Salem district, I find that a sum of Rs. 2,02,000 only is provided for bridge works and I do not think that that amount is intended for this bridge. If you can say that it has also been provided for, then I think, Sir, that this is too paltry a sum for an item which has been estimated to cost about 8 lakhs. At that rate of provision, the work could not be finished early. So I would insist that the Government should take up the construction of this bridge immediately as it serves two districts and is located at a needy centre where there is no bridge across Cauvery for about 100 miles. This does not affect railway earnings too but adds to it.

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In the matter of bridges, Sir, if it is a bridge within the district, it is needless for me to emphasize that it could not be considered more important than a bridge which is to connect two districts because the latter will serve the purpose of two districts. In Mr. Vipan's report I also find that another bridge across the Cauvery which has been engaging the attention of the public for a very long time and in connexion with which the district boards of Salem and Coimbatore have moved, has not been taken into account. This is a bridge between Erode and Pallapalayam. This has not even been mentioned in the report in spite of the fact that both the district boards of Salem and Coimbatore came forward to construct it because in that part where they proposed to construct the bridge the river is rocky and so the bridge could be constructed at a cheap cost and it will improve the amenities of two important mercantile centres, Pallapalayam and Erode. It is not to be found in Mr. Vipan's report and I do not know why it is left out. With regard to the taking up of inter-district communications, from a reference to the answers furnished to my questions some time ago, I am led to believe that the Hon. Minister is not sympathetic towards this question in preference to other works. He vaguely tells us that each and every work will be taken up on its merits. That sort of answer causes me much anxiety, that the proposed bridge at Pugalur across the river Cauvery will be overlooked. It is for that reason, Sir, that I have moved this proposition. I trust it will be accepted, because it stands to reason that this important work ought to receive primary consideration. It connects two districts and both of them will enjoy the benefit of this bridge by having easy access to each other. The bridge proposed to be constructed is at a place midway, where for a distance of 100 miles there is no bridge and people are put to the necessity of going either to the Cauvery bridge at Bhavani at one end or to the Cauvery bridge at Trichinopoly at the other, 100 miles away, to cross the river. It will be seen, Sir, from all points of view that this is an important bridge. I request the Hon. Minister to pay sufficient attention to this work which connects two districts and is an acute need. With these words, I move the motion for the acceptance of the House."

Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI:—" Sir, in seconding this motion, 4 p
I want to bring to the notice of the Hon. Minister that the revival of the toll system is not at all advisable. When once the Justice Party of which he happens to be leader now has abolished the toll system, like the thin end of the wedge the toll system is going to be re-introduced again. By abolishing the toll system the Justice Party took credit previously and we do not want to discredit ourselves by re-introducing it. I feel that under no circumstances the toll system should be introduced again. If the Hon. Minister is going to confine the levy of tolls only to bridges which are going to cost above 30 lakhs, there will be some reason for accepting that proposition. But if we are going to introduce toll system as a matter of general policy there will be a large number of toll-gates in every district and the good work that we have

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done in abolishing the tolls will disappear now owing to the re-introduction of tolls. I therefore appeal to the Hon. Minister not to reintroduce the toll system under any circumstances.

"Another thing is that the ryots are already paying land-cess to the local bodies out of which they are spending for village roads, etc. But the Government may say that they are giving half as contribution and that half must be realized from the people. But I would point out that the Government are expected to give larger grants for trunk roads. Generally they are expected to give the full amount for trunk roads and most of these bridges will have to be constructed only on trunk roads. In such cases the Government are obliged to make the full grants. Therefore I see no reason why we should levy tolls in such cases. The Hon. Minister may say that unless we are sure of receipts from tolls as well as petrol-tax we will not be able to get a sufficiently large loan from the Government of India. As already pointed out by the Hon. Minister in his speech this evening when replying to another motion, no loans need be raised for this year and for the next year he suggested that a sum of 17 lakhs should be raised by way of loans. When such is the case, there is no necessity for levying tolls especially in view of the fact that the future Government which is going to come into being under the Reforms may not say 'already the last Ministry has introduced the tolls and we will continue that policy.' Why should we give room for the future constitution to play on with what we have done? If they want any money by way of tolls let them levy at that time. This Government will continue for a period of one year more and we have got sufficient money to go on with, and for the next year, i.e., 1937–38, we shall have to borrow only 17 lakhs and for repaying that, the petrol-tax is sufficient. Under these circumstances, I think no tolls are necessary and I appeal to the Hon. Minister to omit that provision so that the opposition may not take advantage of it saying that we are anxious to levy tolls, and thus go on with that sort of mischievous propaganda in the next election campaign. With these observations, I support the motion moved by my hon. Friend Mr. Nachiyappa Gounder."

* The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"There seems to be some misapprehension in this respect. We are not legislating for the re-levying of tolls. I wish to make it perfectly clear that this resolution does not have any such effect. The Madras Motor Vehicles Act III of 1931, which is also known as the Abolition of Tolls Act, itself empowers the Local Government to levy toll. Of course the position, as we see in all modern countries, is, if you want to have any appreciable development of the country, that it is necessary to find sources of taxation other than the revenue. And for schemes from which the future generations also will benefit, the policy has been that such schemes should be financed from loan funds. Act III of 1931, the Abolition of Tolls Act, has given power to the Government to levy tolls. Section 14 of that Act lays down:—

'14. (1) The power of the Local Government to levy tolls under section 2 of the Indian Tolls Act, 1851, shall be exercised only in respect of any road

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or bridge which they may make or repair after the commencement of this Act at their expense:

Provided that such tolls shall be levied only at such rates and for such *period as the Local Government may*, by notification in the *Fort St. George Gazette*, declare to be necessary for the recovery of the amount expended upon such road or bridge or such portion of the amount as they may determine.'

I may also state for the information of hon. Members that it has never been the intention of the Government to levy tolls on every bridge that is constructed under this proposal.

"The calculation of 3½ lakhs of rupees to be levied from tolls refers only to the expenditure made on larger bridges and not to every work that is constructed under this scheme. Of course we cannot restrict the number of bridges on which tolls are to be levied only to those on which 4 or 5 lakhs of rupees will have to be spent. If that is done that will tie the hands of Government. I may state that in the case of works to which only half grants are given by the Government it is not open to them to levy tolls. Only in cases where the entire cost is borne by the Government tolls can be levied. Even in such cases it cannot be levied permanently, but only for a fixed period, because the section, as already referred to, says:—

'and for such period. . . or such portion of the amounts as they may determine.'

"I may state that by passing this resolution the House is not legislating in respect of raising loans by this Government. The wording 'to be levied on bridges to be constructed or repaired in future out of the Road Development Fund' is really copied from the Madras Motor Vehicles Taxation Act. I may state that the Government are opposed to the levy of tolls on all bridges. It is only on important bridges that it is proposed to levy tolls. So this is not a retrograde measure. If we are to undertake this large programme of public works by raising the amount from the loan funds, it should be partly repaid from out of the petrol-tax and partly from out of the levy of tolls. The whole question is that this is not at all intended to be a burden on the Provincial finances. In many countries where new bridges are constructed, for some years tolls are levied. I hope in view of the explanation I have given the hon. Member will not press his motion to a division.

"As regards the suggestion that the construction of major bridges which serve as inter-district communications might be taken up first, I feel that I cannot entirely agree with my hon. Friend that inter-district bridges alone are most important. As I have said before, each case must be examined on its merits. There may be a road communication which is only of district importance but which will be beneficial to a larger population. It all depends upon what that inter-district communication should be. Another difficulty with reference to inter-district communications is that very often district boards do not take sufficient interest in them. After all, it is the board that has to prepare plans and estimates and unless they are available Government cannot start the works. The effect of accepting this

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amendment will be that until all those bridges which serve as inter-district communications are completed the Government will be prevented from undertaking any other work. By saying that the construction of major bridges should be taken up first in preference to other works, it would mean that we must complete such major works first and then only other works will be undertaken. I can assure the hon. Member that his wishes will not be neglected and every care will be taken for the construction of these major bridges. In this connexion I may state for the information of hon. Members that they need not be carried away by the fact that only 2 lakhs of rupees are provided for a particular district. If 2 lakhs have been provided it is because it was possible only to provide for such an amount. Two lakhs is the first instalment and with that amount it may be possible to proceed with the works. But the ultimate cost will be 5 or 6 lakhs. In particular districts, where the plans and estimates are ready and where the local bodies are able to spend the amount, probably it will be possible by redistribution between various districts to provide for the necessary funds. As far as my experience and the estimate of the whole situation goes, there will be absolutely no difficulty in finding funds. On the other hand, if there should be any delay at all in spending the amount, it will be only on the part of the local bodies."

-15 .m. * Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER :—" I am not at all satisfied with the answer that the Hon. Minister has given. He said that he would give every attention to the matter. If he is genuinely interested I do not think there is any difficulty for him in accepting my amendment. Since the Hon. Minister says that the Government are not going to levy tolls on all bridges, he may very well say that he proposes to levy tolls only on those bridges which have to be built at considerable cost. If that is so, he need not have objected to accepting my first two amendments. Then with regard to the third amendment too, the Hon. Minister has not shown any sympathy even though I showed the necessity and urgency for it. Therefore I feel, Sir, that I should press the amendments."

The amendments were put and lost.

* Mr. A. B. SHETTY :—" Mr. President, Sir, I beg to move the following amendment that stands in my name—

'Add *at the end the following, namely* :—

" *this Council also recommends that due provision be made for an increase in the annual maintenance grants in the calculations for financing the scheme and that an adequate allotment be made for surface improvement of town roads in distributing the amount between the various sub-heads of the scheme.*" '

Sir, in my speech on the last occasion while supporting the amendment of my hon. Friend Mr. T. S. Ramaswami Ayyar, I have pointed out the necessity for making adequate provision for the maintenance of the existing road system. It is an admitted fact that the roads all over the province are deteriorating year by year. I do not think the

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Hon. Minister will deny this fact. He gave us to understand that an additional provision of about ten lakhs was being given to the district boards with a view to help them to make up the loss suffered by them on account of the abolition of tolls. Sir, the district boards are losing annually about 38 lakhs of rupees as a result of the abolition of tolls. This amount which the Hon. Minister says has been provided in the current budget is hardly sufficient for making good this huge loss. I have also drawn attention to the desirability of surface improvement of our roads in municipal areas and other areas with a view to make them less dusty in the interests of public health. I do not wish to add anything more. I only wish to draw the attention of the Hon. Minister once more to what is said in the Mitchell-Kirkness Report on this point:—

'Before any great move forward is made . . . considerable mileage rendered less dusty.'

"With these few words I commend this amendment to the House."

* Mr. K. R. VENKATARAMA AYYAR:—" Sir, I beg to second the amendment moved by Mr. A. B. Shetty and in doing so I take the opportunity to draw the attention of the Government to the fact that whatever the reasons may be, Mr. Vipan's report at one stage got circumscribed so as to leave out altogether municipal roads. From it I do not draw the inference that the Government are going to disregard the claims of municipal roads and overlook the need for providing funds or paying due attention to the municipal roads. But in order that this matter might be clarified and the House enlightened as to what really are the intentions and the proposals of the Government in regard to municipal areas I have taken this opportunity to second this amendment, so that the Chief Minister might in replying to this particular amendment be rather full in explaining how, after mortgaging the whole of what we have by way of the petrol subvention fund for carrying through in part Mr. Vipan's scheme or the Government proposals arising out of Mr. Vipan's report,—how they propose to find funds for attending to the municipal roads. In so far as the surface treatment to be accorded to short length of important roads is concerned, if any area is absolutely and immediately in need of this kind of attention it is the class of roads in important municipal towns where there is heavy traffic, especially motor vehicle traffic, and where the dust nuisance has become so great that an immediate and urgent programme in the nature of an anti-dust campaign is from the point of view of public health urgently called for. So far as Mr. Vipan's report is concerned, the observation with which this important topic is abandoned is that it is more within the province of the Town-Planning Expert, to pay attention to this part of public requirements, and that the Town-Planning Expert will come up with proposals. Apart however from the proposals of the Special Engineer or of the Town-Planning Expert, my question is: how are the Government going to tackle this question of municipal roads if they are going to mortgage the

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entirety of the resources over non-municipal roads and only the main roads among the non-municipal roads? How are they going to find the funds to improve those categories of road communication without which the benefit of good communications cannot be extended to the entire population, namely, the municipal roads and the roads connecting major villages which are now off the main roads, with the main roads? What is the source from which the Government expect to draw in order to effect the necessary improvements in these two directions? Do they propose to allot under Demand for Public Health special funds in order to tackle this question of dust and carry out an anti-dust campaign so as to bring the matter within the purview of the Public Health department and the Town-Planning department? These are matters in regard to which the Hon. the Chief Minister will probably do well to give his attention. I should like also that in working out the policy of the Government with regard to the various districts some general guiding principle or rule should be adopted and carried out. For instance, are those districts which are now sparing a large percentage of their district board revenues for their own communications, are those districts to be helped in their legitimate and laudable endeavour or campaign or are those who now are truants, so to say, to be helped specially? Take for instance these districts which I will mention illustratively. Kistna spends 11·5 per cent of its entire district board revenues over communications; West Godavari spends only 17 per cent; East Godavari spends only 18·4 per cent; whereas Madura spends 34 per cent of the district board revenues over communications and Tinnevelly 33·7 per cent over communications. On what principle, I ask, are Madura, Tinnevelly and other deserving districts ignored or spited and those three undeserving districts favoured in the scheme adumbrated and carried this morning? In these districts not even inter-district roads are preferred. In fact I was surprised when the Chief Minister was referring to district requirements by way of preference as against inter-district requirements in speaking in regard to Salem and Trichinopoly to which my Friend Mr. Nachiyappa Gounded was referring. In regard to this, the Chief Minister's reply was simply this: 'Each case had to be decided on its own merits.' Now the merits were asked to be investigated by a Special Engineer of accredited experience and that Special Engineer in his report gave preference to inter-district roads and did not include within the category or the provision for this category any individual district roads. But whereas 25 inter-district roads were listed by Mr. Vipan, the Government proposals are confined to 10 only out of these 25 inter-district roads and instead, we find lugged in what Mr. Vipan has not included at all as part of his proposals regarding inter-district roads, individual, specially favoured district roads for Kistna, East Godavari, West Godavari and Guntur. These selected roads in these districts are specially provided for inasmuch as a sum of Rs. 3,82,530 has been allotted for them. Now after Mr. Vipan's report . . ."

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"What about Madura?"

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Mr. K. R. Venkatarama Ayyar :—" Madura has not been favoured. That important bridge side by side with the railway bridge which was discussed by Mr. Vipan with the Madura authorities is not thought of at all. Apparently it comes within the purview of municipal road requirements which are altogether left out of Mr. Vipan's proposals by reason *of the instructions since given to him. I ask: what is the* reason for districts which deserves so little and which devote so little of their district board revenues to their roads, what is the reason for these districts to be favoured? Sir, some point was made this afternoon that the Chief Minister was not going far enough in favour of those districts. Mr. Krishnayya Choudari referred to that point. He wanted to inject special courage into the Chief Minister as if he was lacking in parochial patriotism. I ask: what is it if not parochial patriotism that has resulted in a special provision of three lakhs and odd for these roads in these undeserving but favoured districts? "

Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari :—" On a matter of personal explanation, Sir . . ."

* The Hon. the President :—" I might invite the attention of the hon. Member to the important fact that this amendment deals only with the surface *improvement* of *roads* and *not* the whole *scheme.*"

Mr. K. R. Venkatarama Ayyar :—" What I want to point out is that inter-district requirements were emphasized by Mr. Nachiyappa Gounder."

* The Hon. the President :—" That has been disposed of."

Mr. K. R. Venkatarama Ayyar :—" The Hon. the Chief Minister said that individual district requirements should have preference according to their merits even against inter-district requirements."

The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu :—" Mr. Nachiyappa Gounder's motion has been disposed of and we are now discussing Mr. Shetty's motion."

Mr. K. R. Venkatarama Ayyar :—" Mr. Shetty also has spoken about the importance of municipal roads. I ask: what is the way in which the Government propose to satisfy the requirements of municipal areas, as well as the vital requirements of the villages in regard to which great emphasis is laid both in the Mitchell-Kirkness report and also in the report of the Royal Commission on Agriculture, namely, that you do not extend the benefit of good communications to the masses of the population unless and until you connect the major villages which are off the main road and give them that benefit. How do you propose to meet that? "

* The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili :—" Sir, speaking this morning I have stated that *in* the scheme *now under discussion* the Government have made some provision for the maintenance of roads. In page 5 of the printed note, hon. Members will find that the balance available for mainenance is Rs. 3·01 lakhs. Further, in reply to a question and also during the general discussion of the budget I stated that the idea

was in future as far as possible that the amount that the Government have been providing from their own funds for new roads and bridges should be devoted to the maintenance of roads. With that object in view we have provided in the budget of this year a non-recurring grant of Rs. 10 lakhs from ordinary provincial funds. That is how we propose to meet the cost of maintenance. I may also draw the attention of hon. Members to the list on page 34 of the report where Mr. Vipan has given the additional recurring charges for maintenance. This has been done after careful examination with reference to the actual requirements and not to favour particular districts. It is not based on any party or political considerations.

"No doubt under Mr. Vipan's scheme, municipal areas have been excluded. In their case the Government will be giving grants from the Provincial revenues as they are doing at present. As regards the campaign against dust-nuisance, various municipalities are laying cement roads; special grants or loans are given for this purpose; some municipalities are laying tarred roads even. Any proposal which they will make will continue to receive the attention of the Government. I have already stated that under the main scheme itself we have made provision to retain about Rs. 3 lakhs and odd for maintenance. A beginning has been made as a special case with a sum of Rs. 10 lakhs. I hope that, in view of my explanation, my hon. Friend will not press his amendment."

* Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—"Sir, I do not think there is any harm in the Hon. Minister accepting this amendment. He says he has already made provision for maintenance of roads and for the surface improvement of town roads. This amendment will help him to increase such provision. Therefore I do not propose to withdraw my amendment."

The amendment was put and lost.

S. M. K. BEYABANI SAHIB Bahadur:—"Sir, I beg to move the amendment standing in my name:—

'Add *the following at the end, namely*:—

"*This Council further recommends that out of such loan, a sum of Rs. 20 lakhs be set apart for the construction of bridges and culverts in the Kurnool district.*"'

I shall not take more than 5 minutes. My intention is to draw the attention of the Government to the great need for providing for my district and the Ceded districts, sufficient money for satisfying the needs of these backward districts. It is a pity that out of the huge amount that is proposed to be distributed throughout the whole Presidency, excepting for the construction of a bridge over Tungabhadra in the Kurnool district, the Ceded districts get nothing at all. Kurnool stands in a favoured position; it connects Northern India with Southern India. At present there is no bridge in the Ceded districts which connects Hyderabad with the Madras Presidency. My district will be

12th March 1936] [S. M. K. Beyabani Sahib Bahadur]

satisfied if sufficient funds are allotted to it. I therefore request the Hon. the Chief Minister to consider the claims of my district."

* Mr. A. RAMAKRISHNA REDDI :—" Sir, I second the motion. The principle on which this amendment has been tabled, is this; our cry is that our areas are backward ones; they ought therefore to be shown *special consideration. Special consideration must be shown when it is* a question of the amelioration of the condition of the Ceded districts. This is not a new principle which we are adumbrating here. Even in a country like England, the question of giving special treatment to backward areas is a burning topic of the day. Richer district boards, boards which are themselves financially sound, are themselves undertaking to carry on their own scheme of road development and huge amounts are sought to be spent for these districts by Government also. But for the poor district boards, boards which are not financially sound and whose income is very low, comparatively very small amounts are allotted even though there is absolutely no hope of these district boards evolving their own schemes of road development. It is but absolutely necessary that in the case of the poor districts, Government should come forward with more liberal grants. In that view I say that the grants that are allotted to the Ceded districts are very small.

" I must specially draw the attention of the Hon. the Chief Minister to the question of the construction of a bridge over the Tungabhadra. The report gives two alterative places, one at Kurnool and the other at a place called Madhavaram in the Bellary district. The case for Madhavaram has been set out at some length; some figures have been given to show that there is commerce going on between the Bellary district and the neighbouring Hyderabad State. But unfortunately nothing is mentioned about Kurnool and the relative importance of these two places has not been discussed; whether it affects a large portion of the Madras Presidency or the Bombay Presidency has not also been discussed. Even according to the criteria put forward by Mr. Vipan himself, I should like to point out that the case for a bridge over the Tungabhadra at Kurnool is much stronger. When the question for decision comes up, I would request the Hon. the Chief Minister to consider favourably the proposal to construct the bridge at Kurnool."

Mr. T. S. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Sir, I certainly sympathize with the mover and seconder of this motion though this is a belated attempt to put forward the case of Kurnool. Kurnool certainly deserves the sympathy of this House. Mr. Vipan recommended that a sum of Rs. 6,41,000 should be given to the Kurnool district and the amount proposed to be given by the Government is only Rs. 2 lakhs. There is certainly a case for Kurnool. In spite of my hon. Friend, Mr. Beyabani Sahib coming over and moving this motion from the opposition benches and trying to get support for his proposition, I think it is too late. He should have voted on the main motion, that the whole question should go before a Committee of this House. . ."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—" I think it is too late for the hon. Member to canvass for his motion."

Mr. T. S. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—" The hon. Member is deluding himself if he thinks that he is going to be benefited by moving this motion at this late stage. Certainly, he has the sympathy of many Members of this House."

* The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—" Sir, replying to the motion moved by my hon. Friend, Mr. Beyabani Sahib, I would state that even under the scheme prepared, the claims of Kurnool have not been overlooked. It will not be possible to earmark a sum of Rs. 20 lakhs for the district without any reference to its ability to spend the money. Provision has already been made for constructing bridges and culverts in the Kurnool district. At the November meeting of the Board of Communications, a sum of Rs. 2,57,000 was sanctioned for the Kurnool district. Another sum of Rs. 2,90,000 was sanctioned for the same district. Another sum also was sanctioned. The total comes to Rs. 6 lakhs. This provision for bridges and culverts alone in the Kurnool district compares favourably with other districts. This sum has been provided for, in addition to what Mr. Vipan has recommended for this district. I think it is for the District Board of Kurnool to spend the money that has been provided; then it would be reasonable to ask for additional grants.

" As regards the bridge over the Tungabhadra, that is not a matter which is entirely in the hands of the Local Government. The Government of India will not sanction any new bridges if they are very close or parallel to the railway line, unless they are on what are called main roads. According to the skeleton map prepared, one goes from the centre, one on the West Coast and the other on the East Coast. In the case of the Tungabhadra bridge, an agreement with His Exalted Highness the Nizam's Government will be necessary. By that, I do not mean to say that we are not pressing the consideration of the construction of this bridge. This question has to be considered in consultation with the railway authorities, with His Exalted Highness the Nizam's Government and the Government of India. I shall certainly bear in mind the suggestions made by my hon. Friends."

S. M. K. BEYABANI SAHIB Bahadur:—" In view of the assurance given by the Hon. the Chief Minister I withdraw my amendment."

The motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI:—" Sir, I move the amendment standing in my name:—

> '*This Council further recommends that out of such loan, the amount required for constructing bridges across Kistna and Godavari rivers be set apart in preference to any other proposals.*'

12th March 1936] [Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari]

" Provision has to be made for these bridges because they are on the Grand Trunk road between Madras and Calcutta and these two bridges are really necessary. We presented an address to Sir Muhammad Usman, ex-Governor of Madras, when he visited Ongole. He promised that the Government would consider the question of constructing a dam or something like that. But, so far nothing has come out. I now request the Government to see that the construction of these two bridges is taken up on hand immediately from this loan fund.

" The Hon. Minister said in his speech that the estimates for these bridges were not ready and that it was not possible to take up this work immediately. So far as the Kistna river is concerned, I may state that the Guntur District Board spent a sum of Rs. 5,000 about two years ago and they have already prepared an estimate for the construction of the bridge. The estimates are ready with the district board and if the Government are prepared to pay the money required, the work can be started immediately, much earlier than any other work which the Government are contemplating under Mr. Vipan's scheme. We have already applied for a grant and it is pending before the Government, if I remember aright. With these observations, I request the Hon. the Chief Minister to see that these two bridge works are taken up on hand immediately.

" My hon. Friend, Mr. Venkatarama Ayyar, said some time back that we are injecting extra stimulation into the Hon. the Chief Minister. The Ministers from the Tamil area do not need any stimulation, because they know their duties very well. Those who occupy the treasury benches from the Telugu area, feel a little bit of shyness on account of the outcries of members from Tanjore and Madura, who have got good capacity and do not allow matters to go unrepresented; but unfortunately Members coming from the Telugu country are not so capable. (Voices: 'No, no.') I must admit that in vocal force, we are not so capable. Whatever it may be, Sir, I leave it at that.

" My friend Mr. Venkatarama Ayyar gave some figures to show 4
that West Godavari was spending about 15 or 16 per cent of its income P.
on communications, that Madura and Tinnevelly were spending some 34 per cent, and so on. As a matter of fact, whether it was on account of the influence of the previous Executive Councillors or on account of the influence which the present members of this Council have with the Government, there are in those districts a large number of Government colleges and Government high schools, while unfortunately, in the Telugu districts, we have . . ."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—" There is not much time now for having a Tamil *versus* Telugu controversy."

Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI:—" I only wanted to say that that is why the districts of the Telugu area are spending more money

[Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari] [12th March 1936

on secondary education, i.e., on account of their backwardness educationally compared with the Tamil districts. And because they have to spend so much on education, they are not able to spend a greater percentage of their income on communications, like the southern districts. It is therefore pertinent for me to bring these facts to the notice of the House—not that they are swallowing moneys in the northern districts but are only spending them for various administrative purposes. I am sure the Telugu people managing the Telugu district boards are not in any way inferior; they are doing their duties much better than those in the other districts. With these words, Sir, I request the Hon. Minister to accept the amendment."

* Mr. MAHBOOB ALI BAIG :—" Sir, in seconding this motion, I wish to say just a word. Sir, bridges on these two rivers are long overdue. These rivers are on the great northern trunk road and are not fordable from July till March. They are not only inter-district roads . . ."

The Hon. Sir K. V. REDDI NAYUDU :—" Godavari is unfordable throughout the whole year; there is not a single day on which the Godavari is fordable."

* Mr. MAHBOOB ALI BAIG :—" Kistna is generally fordable nowadays from April to June, but Godavari, as my friend says, is not fordable at all. These bridges are not only on inter-district roads; they are on trunk roads, and the tourists and others feel a lot of difficulty. There is thus an urgent need for constructing these bridges. The Hon. the Minister has stated that each case will be judged on its merits. I do not think any better case can be made out than for these two bridges. The Hon. Minister may at once proceed with the construction of these bridges; difficulties with regard to the preparation of plans and estimates can be easily got over. In fact, my friend the mover stated that plans and estimates have been prepared already for the Kistna bridge. With these words, Sir, I urge on the Government to take up these bridges for construction in this year, if possible."

* The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI :—" Sir, I may state for the information of the hon. the Mover and the Seconder of this amendment that as regards the Kistna bridge, the Government have already forwarded estimates to the Government of India for their sanction. As regards the Godavari bridge, it is expected that the preparation of estimates alone would cost about Rs. 15 to Rs. 20 thousands. I thought it wiser first to obtain the sanction of the Government of India before undertaking the actual detailed investigation. So, the present position is that in the case of both the Kistna and Godavari bridges, the Government and the Provincial Board of Communications have recognized the urgent necessity for them, and as I said, we have already forwarded the schemes to the Government of India for their administrative approval."

Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDRI :—" I withdraw my amendment."

The amendment was by leave withdrawn.

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* Mr. K. KOTI REDDI:—" Mr. President, there are two amendments of which I have given notice. With regard to the first amendment, however, regarding the levy of tolls on bridges to be constructed in future, I think that has been partly answered already. I do not want to take up much time . . ."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—" It was fully answered and fully disposed of."

Mr. K. KOTI REDDI:—" Anyway, I do not think the Hon. the Chief Minister is quite prepared to accept the complete abolition of tolls if he is not prepared for abolition of tolls on roads repaired. I therefore do not want to move that amendment.

" With reference to the second amendment, I move—

' *In line 2, between the words " development " and " outlined "* insert *the following words:—*

" *With the addition of a bridge across the river Pennar near Cuddapah* ".'

Sir, if ever I thought that this report of Mr. Vipan was defective, it was because of his omission to make a proper provision for a bridge across the Pennar near Cuddapah. This is what the Collector, Rao Bahadur M. Narasimham Pantulu, who is now a Member of the Public Service Commission, who is always very careful about spending Government money, says:

'The scheme for road development prepared by the district board is a very ambitious one and represents the maximum needs of the district in the matter of roads and bridges.'

But such a man is of opinion that ' a bridge over the Pennar river near Chennur ' is one of the urgent needs of the district ' which is required to afford improved facilities for marketing and eventually to develop the economic condition of the district.' This bridge will be across the river on the trunk road; and so far as this trunk road is concerned, it is the main artery in the district, and it does not run parallel to the railway. At page 79 of the report, however, it is stated:

'With regard to item (1) above'—that is, with reference to a bridge over the Pennar—' a causeway already exists which appears to satisfy the needs except for a few days in the year, and it is not easy to justify a second construction, which would cost not less than Rs. 5 lakhs.'

" My friend Mr. Krishnaya Choudari asked: ' where is the water in the Ceded Districts, for constructing bridges? ' No doubt there is not much water in the Ceded Districts, but it is a fact that in some years, sometimes even for months together, the river is in floods and the whole traffic is dislocated. This Pennar river near Cuddapah connects Cuddapah and Kurnool by the trunk road to Madras. I think that if there is any work to be provided for immediately, it is this bridge across the Pennar. As my friend Mr. Ramakrishna Reddi stated, on account of the poor finances of district boards in Ceded Districts, the Cuddapah District Board is not likely to take up this work at all, and the only hope in this respect that I have is that my friend the present president of the district board had, during his recent election, promised

to see that the bridge was constructed across the river very soon. I hope that with his party influence with the Ministry, he will see that this is an accomplished fact. Many tributaries of the Pennar bring water into the river near Cuddapah, and there is therefore generally water in Pennar near Cuddapah and there is an absolute necessity to have a bridge near Cuddapah. After all, Sir, it is not a big scheme costing anything like twenty or thirty lakhs or some such thing."

Mr. A. Ramakrishna Reddi:—"I second the amendment."

* The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—"Sir, the question has been discussed more than once by Mr. Vipan and by the Government. The real point is that recently something like Rs. 35 to Rs. 40 thousands have been spent on improving the causeway, and it is reported that normally except for a few days in the year, communication is not interrupted. I am told, however, that this year there have been exceptional floods for some days and the river has been unfordable. There are two points involved here. The first is whether it can precede other schemes which are pending, in view of the fact that a large sum of money has been spent very recently on improving the causeway. The second is that it is understood that the railway authorities would have serious objection to this bridge being constructed, as it is expected to provide a short cut to Nandyal. Hon. Members are no doubt aware that any schemes financed from the petrol fund should not be carried out unless it be with the approval of the Government of India. This question is now being looked into, and I cannot in advance commit the Government to accept this scheme or to reject it. The only thing I will say is that I hope it will be possible ultimately to include this scheme in the list of schemes drawn up; but, as I said, I cannot definitely say whether any preference will be given to this scheme."

Mr. K. Koti Reddi:—"Sir, I thank the Hon. Minister for his sympathetic reply, but I want to say a word with regard to the railway business. This bridge has nothing to do with the railways and the trunk road itself does not run parallel to the railway. I do not think the railway can have any objection to the construction of a bridge near Chennur. This road connects so many districts to Madras, and as the Hon. the Chief Minister stated, it is unfordable at times even for months together. I hope, Sir, that somehow or other the Hon. Minister will see his way to make a provision for the construction of this bridge. I withdraw my amendment, as there is very little time for other amendments."

The amendment was, by leave, withdrawn.

Diwan Bahadur C. Natesa Mudaliyar:—"As there is not much time, Mr. President, I am not moving the amendments* of which I

* 1. That this Council further recommends to take up immediately the construction of bridges and causeways along the road leading from Madras to Tirupati through Pudnvayal, Nagalapuram and Puthur.

2. That this Council do further recommend to take up immediately the conversion of the causeway on the Palar off Chingleput on the Madras-Tindivanam trunk road into a regular bridge.

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have given notice. I would however request the Hon. the Raja Sahib to look into them and take them into consideration when his main resolution is passed and he takes action thereon."

Khan Bahadur MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB Bahadur:—" Sir, I am afraid the Hon. Minister has been taxed with so many unnecessary amendments (Laughter). I will draw his attention to the amendment which I have given notice of, which runs thus:—

'Add *at the end the following*:—

" *And in carrying out the scheme the amount should be distributed according to the importance of each work and a sum of Rs. 15 lakhs should be earmarked for constructing bridges and culverts on the Kanara-Malabar frontier road including road No. 3 of South Kanara* ".'

I only want to draw the attention of the Hon. Minister to the fact that the importance of a road is to be judged not by the volume of the speeches made here but only by the traffic on it. Road No. 3 is a military road on the Kanara-Malabar frontier, and the bridges are all inter-district bridges. It will be a surprise to note that there is now no good road connecting Malabar and South Kanara. After much agitation, a road was constructed, but it is not used because there are so many ferries to be got over and no bridges have been constructed by the district board for want of funds. The Government have been good enough to call for an estimate, which has been prepared and submitted already. I hope that steps will be taken for constructing bridges at an early date."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—" I will now put the main resolution to the vote of the House. The question is—

'*This Council recommends to the Government that in order to carry out the scheme of road development outlined in the report of the Special Engineer for Road Development as far as the resources of the province permit, a loan be obtained. This Council further recommends that the loan be of such amount as can be financed, (1) from this Government's share of the Road Development Fund, and (2) from the proceeds of tolls to be levied on bridges to be constructed or repaired in future out of the Road Development Fund or out of loan funds and that the loan be taken in instalments according to the amounts which it is found possible to spend* '."

The resolution was put and carried.

The House then adjourned to meet again at 11 a.m. the next day.

D. K. V. RAGHAVA VARMA,
Acting Secretary to the Legislative Council.

Appendix I.

[Vide answer to question No. 894 asked by Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 12th March 1936, page 97 supra.]

(1)

Statement.

Number of certificates converted under rule 138 of the Madras Educational Rules.

Year.	Lower Elementary grade to Higher Elementary grade.	Higher Elementary grade to Secondary grade.
1930	150	25
1931	209	25
1932	335	33
1933	296	9
1934	204 (*a*)	10
1935	290 (*a*)	15
1936 till 6th February 1936 ..	6	1

Note.—(*a*) In addition to above 955 and 1,923 Lower Elementary trained teachers passed the Higher Elementary Training-School Leaving Certificate Examination in 1934 and 1935, respectively, as contemplated in rule 138 as amended in 1933.

(2)

To be eligible for a teacher's certificate of the Secondary grade, a trained teacher of the Higher Elementary grade should pass the Matriculation examination or possess a completed Secondary School-Leaving Certificate qualifying him for admission to a University course of studies or must obtain the percentage of marks specified below at one and the same S.S.L.C. Public examination:—

S.S.L.C. Public Examination.

1909 Scheme.	1929 Scheme.	PER CENT.
35 per cent of the marks in each of the three subjects under Group A and in each of the two subjects under Group C.	*Group A*—	
	English	40
	Second Language	40
	Elementary Mathematics	35
	Elementary Science	30
	Outlines of History of England and India and Geography	30
	Group C—	
	In any one subject	35

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APPENDIX II.

[Vide answer to question No. 903 asked by Mr. A. M. Ahmed Meeran Sahib at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 12th March 1936, page 105 supra.]

(1)

Note explaining the work done by late Mr. R. Foulkes while he was Special Officer in the Local Self-Government Department.

The Special Officer was appointed with effect from the 1st March 1934, and the duties entrusted to him will be found enumerated in paragraph 4 of G.O. No. 1046, L. & M., dated the 3rd March 1934.

2. The taluk boards were abolished on 1st April 1934. Notices of discharge had already been given to all the servants of the late taluk boards except the Medical Officers, Vaccinators and the Elementary School teachers. As the Government had given an undertaking that as many as possible of the servants to whom notices of discharge were given would be absorbed in the District Board Offices, the most urgent of his duties then was to arrange for the absorption of the ex-taluk board clerks in the District Board Offices with effect from the date on which the notices of discharge expired, viz., 1st June 1934. Establishment lists of all the taluk boards and of the district boards were called for. Lists of qualified and suitable ex-taluk board servants were drawn up and after examining them a number of senior clerks were ordered to be appointed as additional clerks in the district board offices to cope with the additional work thrown upon the district boards as a result of the abolition of taluk boards.

3. Waiting lists of the ex-taluk board clerks who had yet to be absorbed in each district were issued specifying the order in which they should be appointed in the future vacancies under the district boards.

4. Opportunity was taken to fix the number, designation, and grades of, and the salaries and allowances payable to, the officers and servants in the district board offices.

5. The Special Officer also submitted proposals for the fixation of the designations, grades, salaries, etc., of the non-ministerial establishments under the district boards.

6. He had also to deal with the correspondence arising from the several orders regarding establishment of district boards.

7. He visited the Madura and Ramnad District Board Offices to study the systems and methods of work prevailing there in order to enable him to deal with items (1), (3) and (4) in paragraph 4 of G.O. No. 1046, L. & M., dated the 3rd March 1934.

8. In the case of five district boards, viz., Chingleput, North Arcot, Tanjore, Guntur and Vizagapatam, notices to show cause against the

division of the boards had issued. The Special Officer had only time to visit the offices of the Chingleput and Tanjore District Boards to collect figures to deal with proposals for division.

(2)

G.O. No. 1046, L. & M., dated 3rd March 1934.

READ—the following paper:—

G.O. No. 966, L. & M., dated 27th February 1934.

The Government are pleased to appoint Mr. R. Foulkes, O.B.E., M.L.C., *President of the Madura District Board*, as a Special Officer in the Local Self-Government Secretariat for a period of six months from 1st March 1934 to implement the scheme for the abolition of taluk boards and the division of district boards.

2. The Special Officer will be granted a pay of Rs. 1,000 per mensem. For journeys in connexion with the special duty, he will draw travelling allowances at the rates admissible to an officer in grade I. He will not be entitled to any leave or pension or provident fund concessions or any other remuneration other than the pay and travelling allowance mentioned above.

3. One upper division clerk, one typist and two peons on the same scales of pay as those of similar classes of servants in the Secretariat will be appointed to work under the Special Officer.

4. The Special Officer will work in co-operation with the Inspector of *Municipal Councils and Local Boards. It will be the duty of the* Special Officer to draft proposals for—

(1) the splitting up of district boards having in view the principle that each of the bifurcated boards should be financially self-supporting,

(2) apportionment of the existing district board staff between the new district boards and fixing schedules of establishments and scales of pay for the new district hoard offices with reference to actual requirements and in conformity with those in the Revenue Divisional Officer's offices,

(3) amalgamating the offices of the proposed district boards, district board engineers and district panchayat officers and separation of the offices of district health officers where they have been combined with the district board offices,

(4) drawing up lists of qualified taluk board and district board employees and making arrangements for their absorption in the staff of the district boards as far as possible and preparing lists of district board employees who are unqualified and of those who are over 55 years of age and can be retired,

12th March 1936]

(5) framing detailed proposals for the division of the assets and liabilities of the district boards between the new district boards,

(6) fixing rates of education tax to be levied by the district boards so as not to increase the liability of the Government in respect of the equivalent Government grants and fixing the contribution payable from each district board's general funds to the Elementary Education Fund so as to balance the Elementary Education budgets, and

(7) any other matters which may arise in giving effect to the proposals.

(By order of the Government, Ministry of Local Self-Government)

E. CONRAN SMITH,
Secretary to Government.

To R. Foulkes, Esq., O.B.E., M.L.C.
,, the Examiner of Local Fund Accounts.
,, the Accountant-General.
,, the Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards.
,, the Director of Public Instruction.
,, the Surgeon-General.
,, the Director of Public Health.
,, the Finance Department.
,, the Law (Education) Department.
,, the Revenue Department.
,, the Public (Services) Department.
,, the Law (Legislative) Department.
,, the Superintendent, Government Press (for publication of paragraph 1 only of Government Order in Part I-A of *Fort St. George Gazette*).

Order—No. 1046, *L. & M., dated 3rd March* 1934.

A copy of G.O. No. 966, L. & M., dated 27th February 1934, appointing Mr. R. Foulkes, O.B.E., M.L.C., as Special Officer for implementing scheme for the abolition of taluk boards and division of district boards is communicated to all presidents of district boards and Collectors. They are requested to afford the Special Officer such facilities as he may require in connexion with his special duty.

(By order of the Government, Ministry of Local Self-Government)

E. CONRAN SMITH,
Secretary to Government.

To all Presidents of District Boards.
,, Collectors.

Copy to the Special Officer.
,, Examiner of Local Fund Accounts.
,, Surgeon-General.
,, Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards.
,, Director of Public Instruction.
,, Director of Public Health.
,, Law (Education) Department.
,, Revenue Department.
,, Finance Department.
,, Public Department.
,, Public Works and Labour Department.
,, Development Department.

[12th March 1936

APPENDIX III.

[Vide answer to question No. 920 asked by Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 12th March 1936, page 120 supra.]

Statement showing the classes of establishments and the district boards in respect of which orders fixing the strength have been issued.

Class of establishments.	District boards.
Tracers	All boards.
Mechanics	All boards.
Drivers and fitters	All boards.
Medical establishments	All boards.
(a) Institutions of Western medicine ..	All boards.
(b) *Institutions of Indian medicine* ..	*South Arcot*, Bellary, *Chingleput*, *Coimba*tore, Cuddapah, Ganjam, East Godavari, Guntur, Kistna, Malabar, Ramnad, Tinnevelly, Trichinopoly, Kurnool, Bobbili. West Godavari, Nellore, West Tanjore, East Tanjore and Vizagapatam. *The district boards of Madura and the* Nilgiris do not maintain any institution of Indian medicine. The district boards of Anantapur, North Arcot, South Kanara and Salem do not maintain regular institutions of Indian medicine.
Public Health establishment	Coimbatore, Tinnevelly, South Arcot, East Godavari, the Nilgiris, Nellore, Malabar, South Kanara, Kurnool, East and West Tanjore, Cuddapah and old North Arcot District Boards.

THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF THE GOVERNOR OF MADRAS.

Friday, the 13th March 1936.

The House met at eleven of the clock, Mr. President (the Hon. Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI) in the Chair.

PRESENT:

Reddi Nayudu, Kt., The Hon. Rai Bahadur Sir K. V.
Pannirselvam, The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T.
Souter, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., I.C.S., The Hon. Sir Charles
Bracken, C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S., The Hon. Mr. G. T. H.
Raja of Bobbili, The Hon. the.
Rajan, The Hon. Mr. P. T.
Kumaraswami Reddiyar, The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S.
Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur.
Ahmed Meeran Sahib Bahadur.
Alamelumangathayaramma, Mrs. K.
Annamalai Chettiyar, Mr. S. A. A.
Appadurai Pillai, Diwan Bahadur A.
Arasu, Mr. V. T.
Basheer Ahmed Sayeed Sahib Bahadur.
Basu Dev, Mr. C.
Beyabani Sahib Bahadur, S. M. K.
Bhanoji Rao, Mr. A. V.
Boag, C.I.E., I.C.S., Mr. G. T.
Dalavoi, Mr. R.
Devadasan, Mr. M.
Dharmalingam Pillai, Rao Sahib V.
Foulkes, Mr. G. F. F.
Gopalaswami Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur M.
Halasyam Ayyar, Mr. N.
Harischandrudu Nayudu, Mr. A.
Indrayya, Mr. C
Iswaran Pillai, Mr. I. C.
Jagannatham, Mr. H. M.
Jayaram Nayudu, Rao Sahib C.
Jones, I.C.S., Mr. C. E.
Kesavaramamurti Nayudu, Mr. K.
Kolanda Reddi, Rai Sahib C.
Koti Reddi, Mr. K.
Krishnayya Choudari, Mr. P. V.
Krishnamurti, Rao Bahadur D.
Krishnaswami Ayyar, Kt., Diwan Bahadur Sir Alladi.
Kumara Raja of Venkatagiri, The.
Kuppuswami Choudari, Mr. J.
Madanagopal Nayudu, Mr. R.
Maharaja of Parlakimedi, The.
Mahboob Ali Baig Sahib Bahadur.
Manikkavelu Nayakar, Mr. M. A.
Moidu Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur T. M.
Moses, Mr. P. C.
Muhammad Meera Ravuttar, Mr. K. P. V. S
Muniswami Pillai, Rao Sahib V. I.
Nachiyappa Gounder, Mr. K. A.
Nanjappa Bahadur, Rao Bahadur Subadar-Major S. A.
Narasa Reddi, Mr. T.
Narayanan Nambiyar, Mr. V. P.
Natesa Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur C.
Obi Reddi, Mr. C.
Palat, Mr. R. M.
Parthasarathi Ayyangar, Mr. C. R.
Patnaik Mahasayo, Sriman M. G.
Patro, K.C.I.E., Rao Bahadur Sir A. P.
Peddi Raju, Mr. P.
Pocker Sahib Bahadur, B.
Premayya, Mr. G. R.
Rajagopala Pillai, Mr. P. V.
Rajkumar Muthiah Chettiyar of Chettinad, M. A.
Ramakrishna Reddi, Mr. A.
Ramalingam Chettiyar, Diwan Bahadur T. A.
Ramalinga Reddi, Mr. C.
Ramamurti, Rao Sahib Pandit Ganala.
Raman Menon, Mr. K. P.
Ramaswami Ayyar, Mr. T. S.
Rameswara Rao, Mr. G.
Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. A.
Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. G.
Ranganatham, Mr. N.
Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur C. S.
Ratnavelu Thevar, Mr. P.
Reid, Mr. D. M.
Rukmani Lakshmipathi, Mrs. A.
Russell, I.C.S., Mr. T. B.
Sandana Gounder, Mr. I.
Schamnad Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur Mahmud.
Scott Brown, I.C.S., Mr. W.
Shetty, Mr. A. B.
Simhachalam Pantulu, Mr. G.
Siva Raj, Rao Sahib N.
Smith, Mr. J. M.
Soundara Pandian, Mr. W. P. A.
Sreshta, Mr. M. S.
Srinivasan, Diwan Bahadur R.
Sriramulu, Mr. G.

PRESENT—*cont.*

Subbarayan, Dr. P.
Subrahmanya Bhatt, Mr. U. C.
Sundara Rao Nayudu, Mr. T.
Syed Tajuddin Sahib Bahadur, Khan Sahib.
Thomas, Mr. Daniel.
Uzielli, C.I.E., I.C.S., Mr. H. R.
Vasudeva Pillai, Mr. V. G.
Vedachala Mudaliyar, Rao Sahib M.
Venkatarama Ayyar, Mr. K. R.
Venugopal Nayudu, Rao Bahadur R. K.
Wright, Sir William.
Yahya Ali Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur.
Yakub Hasan Sahib Bahadur.
Zamindar of Bodinayakkanur, The.
Zamindar of Kirlampudi, The.
Zamindar of Mirzapuram, The.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS

Administration of Justice

Restrictions on the appointment of women as Stipendiary Magistrates.

* 922 *Q.*—Mrs. A. Rukmani Lakshmipathi: Will the Hon. the Law Member be pleased to state whether there is any rule prohibiting the appointment of qualified women for any of the salaried posts of magistrates in the City of Madras?

A.—The rules do not prohibit the appointment of women as salaried Magistrates in the City of Madras. But the qualifications prescribed for the posts make it unlikely that any woman will be eligible for them.

Mrs. A. Rukmani Lakshmipathi:—" May I know, Sir, whether the Government would consider the advisability of entertaining women as probationary magistrates in the mufassal and as city magistrates in the Presidency town? "

The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu:—" If the hon. Member sees the printed answer, she will find that there are certain conditions imposed before a woman candidate could be appointed. Of course, if she can come within these conditions, the matter can be considered; but as things stand at present, there does not seem to be any possibility of that."

Mrs. A. Rukmani Lakshmipathi:—" In regard to probationary magistrates in the mufassal, do not the Government think, Sir, that woman could acquire the necessary qualification? "

The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu:—" That might be, but I am not in a position just now to say what the conditions are for service in the mufassal. I am prepared only with answers so far as the Presidency Magistrates in the City are concerned."

Diwan Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar:—" May I know from the Hon. the Law Member, whether the women appointed as honorary magistrates in the city have proved successful or not? "

The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu:—" I have nothing to say against them. They are as good as men."

Diwan Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar:—" If women possess the necessary qualifications, pass all the tests and are qualified to act as stipendiary magistrates, will Government consider their claims for such appointments? "

The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu:—" Passing of tests alone is not enough. If the hon. Member wants that a woman should be appointed as Chief Presidency Magistrate (Mrs. A. Rukmani Lakshmipathi: 'Of course'), she must be a practising advocate of the High Court established under the Indian High Courts Act for not less than 10 years and I am not aware of any lady who possesses that qualification. If it is the case of puisne magistrates, they can only be appointed by transfer from the Madras Revenue Subordinate Service and consequently if a suitable candidate of a particular community is not available for appointment on transfer from the Madras Revenue Subordinate Service, a candidate belonging to that community shall be appointed by direct recruitment or by transfer. So that, from the second clause, it will be noticed that members of the particular community required could not be available from women in service."

Mr. C. Ramalinga Reddi:—" May I ask the Hon. Member whether *if ladies with the necessary qualifications* are available, he will consider their claims for these appointments? "

The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu:—" With the greatest pleasure."

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan:—" May I know from the Hon. the Law Member whether he will not be pleased to make exemptions in the case of ladies in regard to the qualifications? "

The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu:—" That is a matter which does not depend upon me alone, and further if the necessity arises, the matter perhaps will be considered."

Mr. C. Ramalingam Reddi:—" May I first request my hon. Friend whether he would take steps to remove any sex disqualifications, if there are any, with respect to these appointments? "

The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu:—" If the hon. Member had referred to the answer given to the question, he would have noticed that there is no sex disqualification as such at all."

Diwan Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar:—" May I know, Sir, whether, if lady law graduates apply for these posts of stipendiary magistrates in the mufassal or elsewhere for direct recruitment, Government will be pleased to consider their application favourably? "

The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu:—" I am not aware of any such application so far."

Mr. C. Ramalinga Reddi:—" Considering the backwardness of our women, won't they be given preferential treatment in the matter of appointments, if any, if necessary qualifications are forthcoming? "

The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu:—" Well, Sir, there is no such thing as preferential treatment in this Government."

Mr. Daniel Thomas:—" May I know, Sir, whether the rule just now referred to by the Hon. the Law Member is capable of modification in the light of the present situation? "

The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu:—" I quite realize the chivalry of hon. Members. But I think it is not a matter which can so easily be disposed of."

Control of Vehicles

Prosecution of taxi-drivers and hire-bus drivers in South Kanara during 1935.

* 923 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder: Will the Hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) how many prosecutions of taxi-drivers and hire-bus drivers have been launched in South Kanara district in the month of December 1935 and in each of the other preceding months of 1935;

(*b*) of these, how many cases have been personally caught and prosecuted by the District Magistrate in each of those months; and

(*c*) of these, how many have been convicted; in how many cases, the fine imposed exceeds Rs. 25; and if there are sentences other than ' fine ', what they are and how many in number?

A.—A statement is appended.[a]

Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder:—" From a perusal of the statement furnished, I find, Sir, that the number of prosecutions during the month of December is appreciably great when compared to many of the preceding months. May I know from the Hon. the Home Member the reasons for such an increase? "

The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. Panniirselvam:—" May I know to which number the hon. Member is referring? "

Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder:—" In all the columns we find an appreciable increase during the month of December when compared to many of the preceding months."

The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. Panniirselvam:—" I do not think that is correct, because if my hon. Friend will refer to columns (2) and (3), he will find that the figures for December are not the summit."

[a] *Printed as Appendix I on page 239 infra.*

Famine Relief

Recovery of the loans issued in Anantapur district under the Madras Famine Code.

* 924 *Q.*—Mr. G. Rameswara Rao: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) the total amount of loans issued in Anantapur district under sections 107 and 108 of the Madras Famine Code;

(*b*) whether any enquiries have been made or set on foot as to what proportion of them are to be remitted under section 108-A of the said Code; and

(*c*) if nothing has been done yet, whether any steps are being taken to examine the matter?

A.—(*a*) It is presumed that the hon. Member has in mind sections 179 and 180 of the Famine Code. The final report under section 293 of the Famine Code which will contain the particulars required has not yet been received by the Government.

(*b*) & (*c*) The hon. Member has himself suggested that a liberal use should be made of the provision in question (section 180-A). The Government have called for the remarks of the Board of Revenue on it.

Diwan Bahadur M. Gopalaswami Mudaliyar:—"May I know from the Hon. the Revenue Member, when he expects the report from the Board?"

The Hon. Sir Charles Souter:—"I have no information, Sir. I may inform hon. Members, I understand that it is just now with the Board of Revenue."

Diwan Bahadur M. Gopalaswami Mudaliyar:—"In view of the fact that at present there is famine in the district, will the Hon. Member kindly see that the report of the Board is expedited?"

The Hon. Sir Charles Souter:—"I have no doubt the Board will send it up soon and there is no reason to think why they should delay it."

Inland Waterways

Proposal for the abolition of the toll station at Olavanna, South Malabar.

* 925 *Q.*—B. Pocker Sahib Bahadur: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the abolition of the toll station at Olavanna in South Malabar district has been engaging the attention of the Government since October 1934;

(*b*) if so, at what stage the matter now is; and

(c) when the Government expect to arrive at a decision in the matter?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) & (c) The general question of policy to be adopted in regard to the maintenance of West Coast canals in a navigable condition is under consideration and certain information called for from the Chief Engineer for Irrigation is awaited. Pending a decision on the general question, the proposal to abolish the toll station at Olavanna is held in abeyance.

Irrigation

Period of closure of the canals in the Godavari delta.

* 926 *Q*.—Mr. K. Kesavaramamurti Nayudu: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state the result of the investigation ordered with regard to the necessity of reverting to the former method of closing the canals in the Godavari delta for one month only?

A.—The Chief Engineer's report has not yet been received by Government.

Land Revenue Administration

Recommendation of the Settlement Officer for the amelioration of the condition of the ryots under the Cumbum tank (Kurnool).

* 927 *Q*.—S. M. K. Beyabani Sahib Bahadur: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) what steps Government have taken on the recommendation of the Settlement Officer to ameliorate the condition of the ryots under Cumbum tank (Kurnool);

(b) whether the Collector has also made his recommendation to bring this tank under third or fourth rate tanks; and

(c) whether Government have received mahazars of the Cumbum tank ryots submitted through the Settlement Officer who visited the place last year?

A.—(a) The scheme report containing the proposals of the Additional Special Settlement Officer, No. I Party, Kurnool, for the resettlement of the Kurnool district, was published for criticism in the *Kurnool District Gazette* (Supplement) for October 1935. Three months time was allowed to the ryots of the district for making representations on the report. The Government will pass orders on the Scheme report after the receipt of the representations.

(b) The Government have not received any recommendation from other Collectors.

(c) No.

S. M. K. Beyabani Sahib Bahadur:—"With reference to the answer to clause (*b*) may I request the Hon. the Revenue Member to go and visit the particular place and make enquiries and to see that this particular tank is brought under the third or fourth rate tanks in view of the importance of the tank?"

The Hon. Sir Charles Souter:—"I cannot promise that."

S. M. K. Beyabani Sahib Bahadur:—"In view of the fact that a number of mahazars have been submitted and in view of the report made by the Settlement officer who also visited the place last year and recommended that this tank should be converted to the third or fourth grade, will the Hon. the Revenue Member consider the case seriously and ask the Collector to make enquiries into the matter and make his recommendations?"

The Hon. Sir Charles Souter:—"I don't think we have received any such mahazars here."

S. M. K. Beyabani Sahib Bahadur:—"I was one of those who waited on the Settlement officer and mahazars were submitted to him. That officer also visited a number of places under the tank. I therefore request the Hon. the Revenue Member to find out whether any such recommendations have been received?"

The Hon. Sir Charles Souter:—"I may assure the hon. Member that I shall certainly look into this when the report comes up."

Local Self-Government

Extension of the term of the district boards of Tinnevelly, West Godavari, Chittoor and others.

* 928 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the life of the district boards of Tinnevelly, West Godavari, Chittoor and certain others have been extended beyond 1st November 1935;

(*b*) if so, whether a copy of the orders of extension will be placed on the table;

(*c*) whether it is a fact that the elections in these districts have been completed and the results announced; and

(*d*) if so, when, and what the reasons are for the extension?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Attention is invited to Local Self-Government Notification No. 1328 published at page 482 of Part I-A of the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated the 29th October 1935.

(*c*) Yes.

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(d)—

Name of district board.	Date on which elections were completed.
Bellary	25th November 1935.
Anantapur	28th October 1935.
West Godavari	20th December 1935.
Tinnevelly	28th October 1935.
Chittoor	Do.
Kurnool	Do.
Trichinopoly	15th November 1935.

The extensions were ordered with a view to minimize the period during which the Collectors would have to be in charge of district boards as, in the opinion of the Government, it is not desirable to saddle the Collectors with the responsibilities for longer period than is absolutely necessary.

The Hon. the PRESIDENT :—" On behalf of the Hon. the Chief Minister Mr. Russell will answer."

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER :—" May I ask the Hon. Member to state what the special reasons are which prompted the Government to extend the term of those district boards beyond the first of November 1935 in whose cases the elections have been completed in October itself? "

Mr. T. B. RUSSELL :—" I think the answer to this has been quite clearly stated in the printed answer, which says: 'The extensions were ordered with a view to minimize the period during which the Collectors would have to be in charge of district boards as, in the opinion of the Government, it is not desirable to saddle the Collectors with the responsibilities for a longer period than is absolutely necessary '."

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER :—" What I want to know is, when the elections were completed in October and only the presidents' elections are pending, why in such cases also the term should have been extended."

Mr. T. B. RUSSELL :—" The Government issued the notification in October and when that was issued, the Government was not absolutely certain that the elections in all the circles would be completed."

Extension of the term of the Tinnevelly District Board.

* 929. Q.—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDDER: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) when the new general elections for Tinnevelly District Board have been completed;

(b) when the order fixing a date for the expiry of the life of the present District Board of Tinnevelly, was passed and whether a copy of it will be placed on the table;

(c) how many orders have been passed further shifting the date and whether copies of each of those orders will be placed on the table; and

(d) what the reasons are for such a shifting of the date?

A.—(a) 28th October 1935.

(b) Attention is invited to Notification No. 791 published at page 269 of Part I-A of the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated the 16th July 1935.

(c) The date was shifted only once—vide Notification No. 1328 published at page 482 of Part I-A of the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated the 29th October 1935.

(d) Attention is invited to the answer given to clause (d) of question No. 928.

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—" May I know, Sir, whether it is not desirable to have the Collectors put in charge of district boards at the time of elections so that there might be no undue influence brought to bear upon by the party in power in the matter of elections? "

Mr. T. B. RUSSELL:—" That is a question of general policy about which I do not think it would be suitable for me to express an opinion."

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—" May I know what the policy of the Government is in regard to this matter, whether it is to hold the elections by placing the Collector in charge of the district board or by extending the life of the old board? "

Mr. T. B. RUSSELL:—" Normally the policy of the Government is as stated in the original printed answer, namely, that the Collector should be put in charge of a district board for as short a period as possible. In exceptional cases the Government may find it necessary to extend the life of a board."

Extension of the term of the Trichinopoly District Board.

* 930 Q.—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) when the new general elections for Trichinopoly District Board have been completed;

(b) when was the original order fixing a date for the expiry of the life of the present District Board of Trichinopoly, passed and whether a copy of it will be placed on the table;

(c) how many orders have subsequently been passed further shifting the said date and whether copies of them will be placed on the table; and

(d) what the reasons are for such a shifting?

A.—(a) 15th November 1935.

(b) & (c) Attention is invited to Local Self-Government Notifications Nos. 791 and 1328 published at pages 269 and 482 of Part I-A of the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated the 16th July 1935 and 29th October 1935, respectively, and to Notification No. 1516 published in the *Fort St. George Gazette* Extraordinary, dated the 29th November 1935.

(d) Attention is invited to the answer given to clause (d) of question No. 928. The last of the extensions was ordered with a view to avoid certain administrative inconveniences.

Mr. V. T. Arasu :—" May I know, Sir, what the exceptional circumstances are which led the Government to extend the term of the Trichinopoly District Board? "

Mr. T. B. Russell :—" As regards the Trichinopoly District Board, there was an impending change in the office of Collector and Government had not got full information as to whether a permament officer would be in charge and thought that it would be undesirable for an officer temporarily in charge of the district to be put in charge of the district board also."

Mr. V. T. Arasu :—" Am I to understand the hon. Member to say that in places where a temporary or junior officer is posted to be in charge of a district as Collector, he is not competent to hold the office of president of district board also? "

Mr. T. B. Russell :—" I do not think the hon. Member can expect me to lay down any general policy."

Extension of the term of the Chittoor District Board.

* 931 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder : Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) when the new general elections for the Chittoor District Board have been completed;

(b) whether orders have been passed fixing the date for expiry of the life of the old district board (existing one) of that district; if so, when and whether a copy of it will be placed on the table; and

(c) whether the date originally fixed has been shifted by subsequent orders, and if so, whether copies of such orders will be placed on the table; and the reasons for such shifting be stated?

A.—(a) 28th October 1935.

(b) Yes. *Vide* Notification No. 791 published at page 269 of Part I-A of the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 16th July 1935.

(c) Yes. *Vide* Notification No. 1328 published at page 482 of Part I-A of the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 29th October 1935. Attention is invited to the answer given to clause (d) of question No. 928.

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Interference of the Government in the elections to the West Godavari District Board.

* 932 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the elections for the West Godavari District Boar have been completed;

(*b*) if so, when and if not, how they are incomplete;

(*c*) in how many elections did the Government interfere in thi district; to which circle each of such elections relates; who the candi dates concerned in each of these elections are, and on whos representations the Government made each interference;

(*d*) whether orders have been passed fixing a date for the expir of the life of the present district board of that district, and if sc whether a copy of it will be placed on the table; and

(*e*) whether the date originally fixed has subsequently bee altered and if so, on what grounds, and whether copies of the subse quent orders will be placed on the table?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) 20th December 1935.

(*c*) The Government interfered in elections to four circles, viz I, II, IV and XV. The Government are not prepared furnish the information required in the latter part the clause.

(*d*) Yes—vide notification No. 791 published at page 269 Part I-A of the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 16 July 1935.

(*e*) Yes—vide notifications Nos. 1328 and 1516 published page 482 of Part I-A of the *Fort St. George Gazett* dated 29th October 1935, and in the *Fort St. Geor Gazette* Extraordinary, dated 29th November 19 Attention is invited to the answer furnished to clause (of question No. 928.

Extension of the term of the Bellary District Board.

* 933 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the Hon. t Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the elections for the Bellary District Board have be completed and if so, when;

(*b*) whether the date for the expiry of the life of the prese Bellary District Board has been fixed, and if so, whether a copy of t order fixing the date will be placed on the table;

(*c*) whether the date was subsequently altered, and if so, whether copies of the orders in the matter will be placed on the table; and

(*d*) what the reasons are for such extensions?

A.—(*a*) Yes, 25th November 1935.

(*b*) Yes—vide Local Self-Government Notification No. 791 published at page 269 of Part I-A of the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated the 16th July 1935.

(*c*) Yes—vide Notification No. 1328 published at page 482 of Part I-A of the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 29th October 1935.

(*d*) Attention is invited to the answer given to clause (*d*) of question No. 928.

Extension of the term of the District Boards of Anantapur, Cuddapah and Kurnool.

* 934 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the new general elections for the district boards of Anantapur, Cuddapah and Kurnool have been completed; if so, when and, if not, at what stage the elections in each of these districts are;

(*b*) whether orders have been passed fixing the date for the expiry of the life of the present boards in each of these districts; if so, whether copies of each of such orders will be placed on the table; and

(*c*) whether the original date fixed in each of these cases has subsequently been shifted and, if so, what the reasons therefor are and whether copies of the orders (passed subsequently) will be placed on the table?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

Name of district board.	Dates when elections were completed.
Anantapur	28th October 1935.
Cuddapah	6th January 1936.
Kurnool	28th October 1935.

(*b*) Yes—vide Notification No. 791 published at page 269 of Part I-A of the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 16th July 1935.

(*c*) Yes—vide Notifications Nos. 1245, 1328 and 1393 published at pages 448, 482 and 512 of Part I-A of the *Fort George Gazette*, dated the 15th October 1935, 29th October 1935 and 12th November 1935. Attention is invited to the answer given to clause (*d*) of question No. 928 for the reasons for which the extension of term was ordered in respect of Kurnool and Anantapur District Boards. In the case of the Cuddapah District Board, the extensions had to be ordered in view of the revision of its circles.

Nomination of members to the Tiruvannamalai District Board.

* 935 *Q.*—Mr. M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) the total number of persons who were nominated to the newly bifurcated Tiruvannamalai District Board and their names;

(*b*) the period of their term of office;

(*c*) the different communities and interests for which nominations were made;

(*d*) whether the different communities and interests were not already represented;

(*e*) the names of members belonging to the Muslim, Adi-Dravida and Christian community and of women members who belonged to Tiruvannamalai district area at the time of the bifurcation before nominations were made;

(*f*) the reason for making as many as six nominations to the Tiruvannamalai District Board;

(*g*) whether the District Collector was consulted about the names eventually nominated; and

(*h*) if the answer is in the negative, why this usual practice of such consultation was not adhered to in this case?

A.—(*a*), (*c*), (*d*) & (*f*) Attention is invited to the answer given to clause (*e*) of question No. 795.

(*b*) From 3rd December 1935 to 31st March 1936.

(*e*) The Government have no information.

(*g*) & (*h*) The Government consider in the public interest it is not desirable to furnish the information.

Creation of an additional polling centre during the elections to the Chittoor District Board.

* 936 *Q.*—Mr. M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) to which circle of the Chittoor District Board a new polling centre was added a day or two before the polling;

(*b*) what prompted the Government to pass order to such effect; and

(*c*) how and what publicity was given to the creation of the additional polling centre?

A.—(*a*) Circle XXXIX Kanakamma chatram.

(*b*) On account of floods in the river Kusashtali, which flows through the area formerly served by the following stations of Illupur and Kanakamma chatram, situated on

one side of the river, the Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards opened, under instructions from the Government, two new polling stations for the benefit of voters on the other side of the river.

(c) Notice of the new polling centres was published in the villages concerned and copies of it were served on the candidates concerned.

Proposals for the increase of Muslim representation on the district boards.

* 937 *Q.*—S. M. K. Beyabani Sahib Bahadur: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the number of reserved seats for Muslims has been increased in the district boards to give proper representation to Muslims;

(b) whether the Government will be pleased to place on the table of the House the necessary information under the following heads:—

(i) Name of the district where election was held of late;

(ii) total number of seats;

(iii) number of seats reserved for Muslims;

(iv) number of Muslims elected; and

(c) whether there is any proposal before the Government to amend the Local Boards Act and the District Municipalities Act in such a way as to give the Muslims reserved seats either according to their population or 15 per cent of the total seats, whichever is greater?

A.—(a) The number of reserved seats for Muslims was increased from two to three on the Tinnevelly District Board. No similar increase was made in the case of any other district board.

(b) A statement furnishing the information is appended.*

(c) No.

S. M. K. Beyabani Sahib Bahadur:—"May I know, Sir, why the number of Muslim seats has not been increased in cases where the Muslim population is proportionately large?"

Mr. T. B. Russell:—"Government have considered the question of giving adequate representation to the Muslim community in the boards."

S. M. K. Beyabani Sahib Bahadur:—"May I know whether the Hon. Member is aware that several representations have been made before the elections to increase the number of Muslim seats in particular districts where the Muslims are in large numbers?"

Mr. T. B. Russell:—"Does this question relate to any particular district board?"

* Printed as Appendix II on page 239 infra.

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Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—" Does the Government see that in the district of Kurnool where there are as many as 52 seats, only 4 seats have been reserved for Muslims in utter disproportion to the Muslim population of the district? "

Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" May I point out to the hon. Member that the Muslim population is so great that they will have the advantage of coming through the general electorate? "

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—" Will the Hon. Member see that in II-l a.
the Kurnool district which has as many seats as 52, reservation has been made only for 4 Muslims and that only 4 Muslims have been elected? "

Mr. T. B. RUSSELL :—" Government will consider the matter."

Proposals from the East Godavari District Board for the purchase of a building and site for a rest-house at Razole.

* 938 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Government have issued orders to the East Godavari District Board in September last prohibiting the purchase of a building and site for the rest-house at Razole;

(*b*) if so, whether a copy of it will be placed on the table;

(*c*) whether another order was passed in November last allowing the purchase of the said site and building under the Land Acquisition Act; whether the Board was of opinion that the purchase was necessary, on the representations of the President of the District Board;

(*d*) if so, whether a copy of the order of the Government as well as a copy of the representation of the President, District Board, will be placed on the table; and

(*e*) whether representations have again been received by the Government in the matter, and if so, what they are and what orders have been passed thereon and whether a copy of it will be placed on the table?

A.—(*a*) The Government declined to approve of the Board's proposal to purchase the " Alluri buildings " in court auction.

(*b*) A copy of G.O. No. 3798, L. & M., dated the 17th September 1935, is placed on the table.[a]

(*c*) The Government allowed the Board to take necessary steps to acquire the buildings under the provision of the Land Acquisition Act, 1894.

The Board had already resolved on 20th May 1935 to purchase the buildings subject to approval by the Government.

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[a] Printed as Appendix III on pages 240-243 infra.

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(d) A copy of G.O. No. 4837, L. & M., dated the 22nd November 1935, and a copy of the President's representation contained in his letter No. 681 of 1934, dated the 1st November 1935, are placed on the table.[a]

(e) No. The questions do not arise.

Repairs to and maintenance of roads in the Ganjam district.

* 939 *Q.*—Sriman M. G. PATNAIK Mahasayo: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether any report has been received by the Government regarding the condition of the roads in the Ganjam district for the last two years;

(b) the amount of grants made by Government during the last two years for the maintenance and repairs of roads in the Ganjam district;

(c) the mileage of roads maintained by the District Board in the Chicacole, Ghumsur, Berhampur and Chatrapur divisions and the amount sanctioned for the maintenance of—

(i) the trunk road; and

(ii) the second-class roads in each of those divisions for the last two years;

(d) whether the Government are aware that the Alikam Battili road in the Chicacole division has been in a bad state for the last fifteen years; and

(e) why no steps have been taken to improve the road?

A.—(a) Yes. The usual annual inspection reports of the Superintending Engineer on the condition of the trunk road, and of the Collector of Ganjam, on the condition of second-class roads have been received.

(b) Rupees 1,75,694 in 1933–34.
Rupees 1,58,076 in 1934–35.

(c) A statement[b] is placed on the table.

(d) & (e) The annual inspection reports of the Collector of Ganjam, for 1933–34 and 1934–35 show that the condition of the road was generally fair in those years. The President, District Board, however, now states that the road is as bad as some others in the district for various reasons, chief of them being paucity of funds, heaviness of traffic and non-availability of good materials and that steps are being taken to improve the road.

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[a] Printed as Appendix III on pages 240–243 infra.
[b] Printed as Appendix IV on page 243 infra.

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Sanctioned strength and scale of pay of certain classes of district board and panchayat board servants.

* 940 *Q.*—Mr. M. B. Rangaswami Reddi: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) with reference to the answer given to question No. 631 on 20th February 1935, whether the Government have regularized the strength, scales of pay, etc., under section 67 (3) of the Local Boards (Amendment) Act, 1934, of the staff, under the district boards other than the ministerial staff and the medical and non-medical staff in local fund medical institutions in certain districts;

(*b*) if not, what the reasons are for not doing so;

(*c*) whether the scales of pay have been prescribed in the case of panchayat boards; and

(*d*) if so, when?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) Orders in regard to the fixation of the scales of pay of the engineering establishments, mechanics, drivers of engines and road-rollers, fitters, public health establishments and the staff employed in medical and non-medical institutions under district boards have been issued. The strength of the staff under all the heads referred to above, except in the case of assistant engineers, overseers and draughtsmen and in some district boards in the case of public health staff, have been fixed. The cases where the strength has not been fixed are under the consideration of Government or pending with presidents of district boards and the Director of Public Health. Orders thereon will issue in due course.

(*c*) & (*d*) The power of fixing the strength and scales of pay of the establishments of panchayat boards has been delegated to the Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards who has issued orders so far on these establishments in the Bellary and East Tanjore districts. Orders in the remaining cases will be issued by him in due course.

Mr. G. Rameswara Rao:—"Is not the Government aware that in the Anantapur district the panchayats are so poor that they cannot maintain even one clerk if the expenses of the staff are restricted to 10 per cent of the collection?"

Mr. T. B. Russell:—"Government are not aware of the difficulty."

Pay of pandits and munshis appointed in secondary schools prior to 1926.

* 941 *Q.*—Mr. G. Rameswara Rao: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether pandits and munshis appointed in secondary schools before 1926 are eligible to draw the scale of pay fixed in the latest Government Order;

(b) whether they are entitled to this new scale, whether they have passed any examination or not;

(c) whether before 1926 any examinations were prescribed for entertaining pandits in aided institutions including board schools; and

(d) whether the latest Government Order deals specifically with the permanent pandits appointed before 1926 and if not, whether the Government will clear up the matter?

A.—Attention is invited to G.O. No. 621, L. & M., dated the 15th February 1936, a copy [a] of which is placed on the table.

Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder:—" May I ask the Hon. Member whether it is not justifiable to give preference of the higher scale of pay to those pandits in view of their long experience in those posts? "

Mr. T. B. Russell:—" The matter has been considered and it is considered neither practicable nor desirable. "

Public Works

Proposal for shifting the headquarters of the Superintending Engineer, Dowlaishwaram Circle, to Waltair.

* 942 Q.—Mr. K. Kesavaramamurti Nayudu: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state whether there is any proposal before the Government to shift the headquarters of the Superintending Engineer, Dowlaishwaram Circle, to Waltair again?

A.—No.

Excise

Interview by the Madras Services Commission of candidates for Excise Sub-Inspectors' posts.

* 943 Q.—Mr. M. Devadasan: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) in how many places candidates for the posts of Excise Sub-Inspectors were interviewed by the Public Service Commission;

(b) what the total number of the candidates interviewed by the Commission is;

(c) how many of them belonged to the city and how many to the mufassal;

(d) how many of the city candidates were directed to go to the mufassal for interview; and

(e) how many of the mufassal candidates were directed to go to he city for interview?

A.—The Government have no information.

[a] Printed as Appendix V on pages 243–244 infra.

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Mr. M. DEVADASAN :—" The answer to the question is rather disappointing. Will the Hon. Minister be pleased to call for the information? "

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR :—" Government are not in possession of the information and I think it will not be proper for the Government to question the Services Commission in the manner suggested with regard to the procedure adopted by them."

Mr. V. T. ARASU :—" In view of the fact that this matter has been brought to the notice of the Government, will the Government ask the Services Commission that at least in future the candidates from the city should not be asked to appear in the mufassal? "

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR :—" No such thing has been brought to the notice of the Government."

Mr. V. T. ARASU :—" I take it that when a Member has taken the responsibility of putting the question, the matter may be pursued."

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR :—" I cannot act on mere suggestions and implications."

Mr. M. DEVADASAN :—" As the actions of the Public Services Commission are rather mysterious, may I ask the Hon. Minister to call for the information and see that something is done? "

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR :—" As I suggested, no specific instance of misuse of power or any other act which calls for interference has been mentioned in the question."

Diwan Bahadur M. GOPALASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" If the city candidates are asked to go to the mufassal and the mufassal candidates are asked to go to the city, will the Hon. Minister issue instructions to stop it? "

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR :—" If any hon. Member will take the responsibility of making a definite statement, the question will be considered. There is no such statement in the question."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The House will now proceed to discuss the Demands for Grants."

[*Note*.—**An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.**]

II. BUDGET FOR 1936-37—VOTING ON DEMAND FOR GRANTS.

DEMAND I—LAND REVENUE—RESERVED.

* The Hon. SIR CHARLES SOUTER :—" On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I move that Government be granted a *sum not exceeding Rs. 16,95,700 under Demand I—Land Revenue—*Reserved."

* Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER :—" Sir, I beg to move—

' *To reduce the allotment of Rs.* 37,700 *for charges of adminstration—Taluk establishments—Pay of establishments by Rs.* 100."

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" From an examination of the land revenue policy of Government, you will see, Sir, that it is not at all acceptable from the point of view of the ryots and much more so taking the present day circumstances into consideration. The policy of Government all along is that they are doing all in their power to see that the revenue under the land revenue is increased by all possible means and opportunities. Even to start with, the rate of land assessment was high enough. And yet they take up the weapon of settlement and go on increasing the assessment settlement after settlement and they have reached an appreciably high rate at the present moment. The policy of Government with regard to these matters, Sir, is one which is crushing the ryots more especially in the present day. The economic depression has set in and has put the ryots in a very great difficulty and the increase of the land revenue at this moment is very hard and almost impossible for them to pay. Therefore it is high time for the Government to see their way to reduce the burden of the ryot population which help they are very badly in need of. The present policy is utterly detrimental to the well-being of the ryots. I urge on the Government that it is high time for them to revise their policy. They may say that we are almost on the eve of the new reforms and the new Government will take up this question. It is true. But what I would like to point out is that this question ought to have received the attention of the Government long ago. But unfortunately for us it was not done and it was all along the policy to increase the revenue under all opportunities. In the matter of the land revenue assessment the method adopted by this Government is totally unsatisfactory. They have got their own method of increasing without any consent of the people or their representative body, the Legislative Council, which should have full control over all these affairs, and they go on having an increase of their own which ultimately has come to crush the ryots. If any legislation could have been made with regard to this matter and the Legislative Council of the Province could have been consulted time after time with regard to the levy of land revenue, then it would have been well regulated and the ryot would not have been so sadly and miserably burdened. Therefore it is necessary that such a method is adopted as early as possible. To start with, you may take up such a course that the matter of the levy of assessment could be well regulated and the ryots could have some relief and do some spade work, and prepare the way for the new Government in that direction easy. I wish the Government do take up such a policy immediately. If they take up that proposal of doing the spade work and clearing the ground now, then, Sir, it will be very easy for the new Government which is to come up very shortly to tackle the question and bring in a legislation incorporating a satisfactory policy of land revenue and put it into operation in the very first year of their functioning. So I would request the Hon. the Revenue Member to see that they make the way easy for the future Government to adopt such a policy early. With regard to the policy of settlement, Sir, I would like to say to the Government that they should take up the matter and give their earnest consideration. I am glad to find, Sir, that the policy of Government with regard to the

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rates of resettlement which has lately been adopted bears a little change from their original tract and any increase of assessment has been stayed for the present. I desire to congratulate the Hon. the Revenue Member with regard to that change in the policy. I had occasion to make reference to it when I spoke at the time of the general discussion on the budget this year but unfortunately the Hon. the Revenue Member was absent then and he could not give a reply to it. I raise the same question now to enable the Hon. the Revenue Member to consider about it and give a sympathetic reply. I should like to point out that the new policy of not giving effect to the increase should be given effect to from the time the depression had set in. I think, Sir, that the Government should have undertaken this policy, a right course indeed, with a view to giving relief to the ryot and also because of the fact that it is not desirable to give effect to any enhancement whatsoever at this period when the ryots are not able to pay even the existing rate of assessment and the fact that the Government are by force obliged to give a general remission even in the present rate of assessment. If that be the case, Sir, may I ask the Hon. the Revenue Member to see why be should not give effect to it retrospectively or from the time the general depression had set in, i.e., from the year 1930–31. If it is done so, it will surely be consistent with the policy of Government, and it will be of great relief to the ryots who have been saddled with additional taxation at a time when they are not able to pay their present level of taxes. I am sorry to say that the Hon. the Revenue Member did not think it wise to consider that aspect of the question. I have been putting question after question with regard to this matter but I have been able to get only a very unsympathetic and negative reply. I would ask the Hon. the Revenue Member to consider this question at least now and see his way to come to the help of the ryots. Then coming to the district which I have the honour to represent I would put the case of six of her southern taluks which were resettled recenty, specially before the Hon. the Revenue Member and observe that the order of not giving effect to any increase should have come into play only on the examination of the case of our district which was the last one to have the fateful order of increase, *and this district needs some special consideration to receive the benefit of this belated order.* In the matter of increased resettlement rates in the Salem district about which orders were passed on 1st February 1935, an incremental remission was ordered and thereby the ryots for all practical purposes have to pay an increase of six pies in the rupee for each fasli commencing from fasli 1344, for four faslis.

" Though the Government can say that they have passed orders 11-
increasing the assessment by two annas in the rupee but that they are a
giving incremental remissions year after year and this district cannot have the benefit of the present policy, I should like to point out that it is a matter for the ryots to pay half an anna in the rupee as an increase every year, and so, if the present policy is to be taken into account, I would urge on the Government to see that the 1½ annas remission that has been granted during the fasli 1344 should be allowed

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to continue, because their present policy is that they should not make any increase taking the special circumstances into consideration. The incremental remission means for all practical purposes an increase of six pies in the rupee in the first year, one anna in the second year, 1½ annas in the third year and two annas in the fourth year instead of an increase of two annas in the first year itself. Thus, it becomes an increase in assessment and so I may request the Government to consider that the remissions which they granted in fasli 1344 should be allowed to continue as it very well comes under their present policy and constitutes an increase after the date of their order in this respect, and allow its fate to be decided by the future Government like the one of Guntur which closely followed Salem in the matter of resettlement. I hope, Sir, the Government would take into consideration this aspect and give their earnest consideration.

" Then, Sir, with regard to the land revenue remission, I would urge that the Government should see their way to give adequate remissions to the ryots who are greatly suffering on account of some exceptional circumstances at the present moment. I am glad that the Government have come forward this year to give an absolute remission of 12½ per cent in some cases and less in other cases. But I like to point out that it is not adequate, and that they must think of giving more liberal remissions taking the peculiar circumstances now obtaining. I may point out that in some districts on account of excess of rain and cyclone great hardship has been caused and that in some other districts on account of dearth of rain much hardship has been caused. Taking, for instance, the Tanjore district, we have been hearing from the representatives of those areas that much damage has been caused to the crops and that the people are in great need of help. As for the district which I have the honour to represent, I can tell the Government that this district is mostly dependent on dry crops and wet areas are very scanty in this district. Particularly in the current year, we have not had seasonable rains and crops have utterly failed, and there is acute distress even in regard to cattle-fodder and good and adequate drinking water in many of the places is a great problem. When such is the case, it is quite necessary that Government should rise to the occasion and see that they help the ryots in this district in their hour of need. In the matter of remissions, it is quite necessary that the ryot should be helped to the maximum extent. I have already pointed out that the land revenue policy is very defective and the ryots are the worst sufferers by it. In an exceptional period like this, it is essential that the Government should come to their rescue and help them. It is intended to point out by a cut motion which comes last under this demand that some reduction in the salary of the officers and other establishments of Government should be made to meet the situation. Though it is stated there that a definite percentage of cut should be introduced, I would leave the matter to the Government to examine and see what percentage of cut can be introduced and threby give some adequate remission of not less than 25 per cent to the ryots. I am glad, Sir, that the Government rose to the occasion in the year 1931

or so and brought in some reduction in the salaries as an exceptional case. But they failed to see their way to continue it so long as the present state of affairs continued. It is not too late for them to revive the policy which they enunciated in 1931 to see whether they cannot help the ryots and adjust the finances of this Province by introducing a cut in salaries. If we look into the information available in regard to the salaries, we will find, Sir, that they have been increased enormously from the year 1918–19, and now they have reached almost a climax. So, it is up to the Government to see their way whether they could not make any savings at the present moment in order to help the ryots. I think this question will engage the earnest attention of the Government, so that they may bestow their best consideration to come to the rescue of the ryot population.

"Then, Sir, with your permission, I may pass on to the other points which I like to touch upon under this demand, and that is with regard to some matters on which I have given notice of cut motions. With regard to survey in the proprietary estates, I would like to point out to the Hon. the Revenue Member that in most of the proprietary areas survey has not been heard of, and it is a great disadvantage to the ryot population. Among the very many disadvantages, I may mention one thing, Sir, and that is that the ryots in these proprietary estates are not even able to get the help of the land mortgage banks because of their lands not having been surveyed and record of rights maintained. The land mortgage banks come to the help of the ryots or tenants only in cases where there is survey and record of rights, and since great many of the proprietary estates are not having such things, the banks could not help the needy ryots of those areas."

The Hon. Sir CHARLES SOUTER:—"On a point of order, Sir, I understand the hon. Member has given notice of a cut motion for the abolition of the Survey department and yet he wants surveys to be made."

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—"May I point out, Sir, that it has been the practice in this House to discuss all and sundry things on a cut motion?"

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Evidently the hon. Member has not understood the point of order. The Hon. the Revenue Member says that the hon. Member has given a cut motion advocating the abolition of the Survey department itself. When that is so, how is the hon. Member consistent in his present pleading?"

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—"I shall explain my position, Sir. If Government can take up my advice and abolish the Settlement and the Survey departments at the present moment, I am prepared to concede that this question which I am raising now shall be dropped and I shall close my observations on it. But since that proposition of mine has been shelved and when it has been the attitude of the Government to keep on the department, my point

is why they should not also consider the question of helping the proprietary estates. Taking the present policy that the settlement rates are not to be brought into play, if the Government would take steps to abolish the Survey and Settlement departments for the time being, I could not have mentioned this question at all. As things stand, I would like that help should be extended to those areas also, so that the ryots in those areas may enjoy the benefit of survey and record of rights along with their brethren in the surrounding ryotwari areas. That is why I was obliged to make mention of this point. I would ask the Hon. the Revenue Member to consider this question with sympathy and see that as many estates as possible are surveyed in the near future by extending all possible concessions to the landholders.

"Then, Sir, I would like to pass on to another thing, and that is the question of town survey. With regard to the survey of union towns, we find that deputy surveyors are employed and they are carrying on the survey. But I would like to point out that the work is not being pushed through as quickly as it is necessary, so much so that many union towns are not having proper town survey. In this connexion I would also like to draw the attention of the Government to one of the towns in my district of Salem, namely, Yedapady, where town survey is very badly needed. It has not been taken up for survey up to the present day, and so I would ask the Hon. the Revenue Member to have this question considered and see that all the union towns besides the one which I have mentioned are brought under survey early.

"Then, Sir, with regard to the assignment of lands, I feel that I should say a few words. The Government may adopt a policy of assigning all possible extent of lands, so that it may be of help to them to have more revenues realized and at the same time to render help to some of the landless people. I find from the figures furnished in the Adiministration Report that there is a vast extent of cultivable land not having been assigned at the present time, and so I am compelled to ask the Government to see their way to have the assignment made in all possible places, so that they may augment their revenues and at the same time help the landless people. If they are able to get increased revenue from this direction, it may not be necessary for them to think of increasing the assessment by way of resettlement or otherwise, and thus they can help the people doubly, i.e., providing more lands for cultivation, and giving some possible reduction in land tax instead of by attempting at legislation like the Tobacco Bill.

"I do not want to take up more of the time of the House as other hon. Members are anxious to speak. Finally, I would ask the Hon. the Revenue Member to see that these points are carefully examined and given effect to at a very early date. With regard to remissions, Sir, I would particularly request the Hon. the Revenue Member to see that he pursues a course by which he will be able to give the maximum possible reduction in the rate of assessment on land. From

a perusal of the figures which are furnished in the Administration Report, he will find that there is an enormous increase in the number of cases in which coercive processes have been taken during the fasli 1343 and I hope it will be still greater in fasli 1344. That is a very clear sign that the ryots are not able to pay their land revenue assessment, and that is why the Government are put to the necessity of having recourse to such processes. So, Sir, I would ask the Hon. the Revenue Member to take immediate steps to relieve the ryots. With regard to the resettlement rates, I would particularly ask the Hon. the Revenue Member to examine the question and see his way to give retrospective effect to it, at least in the case of districts which have been resettled after this sad depression commenced and particularly my district which was the last one to have the increase. With these words, I move the cut motion standing in my name."

Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt:—" In supporting the cut motion 11
which has been moved by my hon. Friend, Mr. Nachiyappa Gounder, a
I should like to say a few words. Sir, the settlement system of this Government is archaic, meævial, unjust and oppressive. This system was brought into vogue about the year 1860 when the Government machinery had not so much advanced as at present, when there were no legislative institutions as we have at present, when law courts and educational institutions had not developed to such a large extent as now. So, whatever justification there might have been in those days for the introduction of such a system, now, Sir, it works as an engine of oppression and injustice to the masses. The most important elements which are lacking in this system are that there is no statutory basis for the taxation and that the taxation imposed bears no proportion whatsoever to the income which the ryot gets.

" Taking the first question, though no doubt on paper the settlement system looks quite all right and not very unjust, in actual practice as it is worked by executive orders, it has become an engine of the greatest oppression to the people. Times without number, in the course of the last resettlement, I had had to draw the attention of the Government by means of interpellations and memoranda and in other ways to this question, so far as South Kanara was concerned. I have shown by facts and figures that the settlement rates have been wrongly calculated so much so people have been taxed 100 per cent more than what they would have been taxed if the calculations were properly made. But the Government do not want to look into them. If they do so, they will have to reduce taxation. If the whole question of taxation was put on a statutory basis, if there was any wrong calculation on the part of the Government, the ryot might go to a Court of law and establish his right to a proper calculation of taxes. So long as this is not done, the present wrong will continue and the oppression of the people will continue also. This sad state of things must be put an end to."

The Hon. Sir Charles Souter:—" On a point of personal explanation, Sir. I am sorry to interrupt the hon. Member. I have to be absent from the House for some time and I hope it won't be

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considered as discourtesy to the House, but my Secretary will be here to explain any points arising during the discussion."

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—"The next point is that the revenue taxation in this Presidency does not bear any just relation to the income which the ryot gets. Though other Governments have been making experiments in the way of adjusting taxation to the income the ryot gets, this Government has done nothing. In spite of the fact that the country is passing through economic depression of an unprecedented type and that the produce of the land is not leaving anything to the ryot after paying the assessment under this wooden system of settlement, still Government have not done anything to reduce the taxation or make it bear any relation to the income that the ryot gets. As a result, the ryot is driven to desperation. His properties and other things are put up for sale if taxes are not paid. I do not think any government can get on if the peasantry is wiped out of existence, as it will be the case if the present policy is continued. I do not know how there can be a stable government then. The taxation must bear some relation to the income of the ryot. No doubt, Sir, an average of 30 years' prices is taken as the basis for taxation, but naturally one would expect that when the prices go down, the taxation also must go down in proportion. Now was there any instance during the last 30 years when taxation has been reduced? Except in a few instances, as a general rule, there has been no case of general reduction of revenue. One would expect during this heavy economic depression a reduction in taxation. On the contrary it is being enhanced by 12½ per cent. No doubt, Sir, the Government has attempted to meet the economic depression by giving 10 per cent remission in the assessment. But even in this, Government has been niggardly. For one thing, the remission that has been given is quite out of keeping with the distress that is prevailing. Secondly, in the working out of this grant of remission great injustice has been done to the districts which have been recently resettled. Districts where resettlement is to be introduced hereafter get both the benefits of the postponement of the resettlement as well as the remission, but districts resettled in the last two or three years are denied these benefits. I shall make myself more intelligible. Speaking for South Kanara, though we have been granted remission, we have not been given the benefit of the postponement of resettlement rates—we have to pay half anna or one anna or one and a half annas, as the case may be, of resettlement rates, minus the remission which we would otherwise have got even if there had been no general remission at all. But so far as those remissions are concerned, they have been ordered to be deducted from those increment remissions which we would otherwise have got even if no general remission had been given. My submission is that the general remissions have had absolutely no beneficial effect so far as the districts which have recently been resettled are concerned, while on the other hand they have to pay an enhanced assessment, whatever it is, of half anna, one anna or one and a half annas.

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" Then so far as the revenue policy of the Government is concerned, in spite of the fact, Sir, that the economic depression has been so great, that people have been finding it difficult to pay the assessment, and in spite of the fact that the taxation has been so very heavy, over and above this assessment the people of the district—I shall confine myself to my district—are called upon to pay resurvey charges. The Government without any consideration for the ryot—I am speaking of the last year, so far as this year is concerned it is not yet time—were putting into operation all the coercive measures in their armoury so much so that the ryots were put to great hardship and misery. I believe that within about two months there were as many as 8,000 coercive processes and distraints in my district. There was also one case of arrest and imprisonment which was the subject-matter of an adjournment motion in this House. Now I want to ask what the Government is going to do this year. Is it going to continue its repressive policy? The people of my district are put to the greatest suffering, because in addition to the taxes, they have to pay the resurvey charges also. There is also the additional hardship caused to them on account of taxation of the pepper gardens which is quite iniquitous and unjust, as pointed out times without number in this House.

" There is one other point. The Hon. the Revenue Member when answering to the adjournment motion in this House last time said that he would consider the question of deleting section 48 of the Rent Recovery Act which empowers Government to arrest and imprison people. Subsequently when a question was asked on the same subject he was pleased to answer that the Revenue Board had been consulted and their reply was awaited. I believe the matter would have been considered by now and he will be in a position to give us a favourable answer. With these words I support the motion moved by my friend Mr. Nachiyappa Gounder."

* Mr. G. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" Mr. President, I rise to support the motion before the House and, in doing so, wish to make a few remarks about the land revenue policy of the Government. The Government have announced a remission of about 11 per cent in the land revenue wet assessment and the water-cess for this fasli. While thanking the Government even for this small mercy shown to the ryotwari population of this province, I shall be failing in my duty if I do not impress upon the Government that the remission granted is quite inadequate at least as far as my district is concerned. I am anxious that I should not be misunderstood as ignoring the claims of other districts which are in the same plight as mine. But knowing intimately the general conditions and recent events in my district, I cannot help emphasising the fact that the ryots of the Tanjore district stand now in sore need of a special concession by way of a more substantial remission being granted to them. There have been several problems peculiar to my district which have worsened the position of its ryots when compared with that of the ryots of other

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districts. On account of the general world depression, the price of paddy began to decline in 1931. Usually, there are about a lakh and a quarter tons of paddy every year available for sale from my district. This surplus paddy was being sold to other districts in this Presidency, and to Ceylon in former years. For the past three or four years, imports of paddy from Siam, Indo-China and Burma began to increase to a large extent, and affect the markets which had been previously available to the Tanjore ryots. On account of peculiar conditions obtaining in those countries, they have been able to sell their paddy and rice at rockbottom prices, and the ryots in my district have not been able to compete with them. No doubt, Sir, there has been some slight improvement in the price of paddy from last year when compared with the price prevailing in 1934. But the improvement is so slight as to be almost negligible. It is still much below the commutation rate fixed at the last resettlement which is Rs. 1-14-6 per kalam, and which was the rate fixed by the resettlement officer at a time when paddy was being sold at more than Rs. 3 per kalam.

"During the last decade, it has been the peculiar misfortune of my district that every second or third year there have been damages either by cyclones or torrential rains or by drought. These seasonal factors have reduced considerably the normal outturn of paddy. The Government themselves have acknowledged in some years in their season and crop report the reduction in the normal outturn of paddy.

"When the ryots of my districts were groaning under these hardships, the Government have chosen to burden them with additional taxation for the past two years on account of the Cauvery-Mettur Project. I do not want to go once again into the merits or the justification of the Government in levying this additional taxation because the matter has been fully dealt with on the floor of this House, and the House passed a resolution recommending to Government the cancellation of the additional taxation. So far, the Government have not chosen to give effect to it. I may here say, generally that when the Government recognized the necessity for giving relief to the ryots throughout the whole province by granting remission, my district alone did not get any real benefit, since the effect of the remission was neutralized by the additional taxation. This additional taxation is about 10 per cent whereas the remission granted is a little less than 11 per cent. Thus it will be seen that what is given as remission with one hand to the ryots of Tanjore is taken by the other as additional taxation. There was a considerable amount of agitation in my district when this additional taxation was levied, and, in addition to the resolution that was passed by this House there were representations made to the Collector of Tanjore, the Hon. the Revenue Member and also to His Excellency the Governor to cancel this additional taxation or at least to keep it in abeyance until better times came. But no substantial relief has been given as yet. The Hon. the Revenue Member, replying to my questions the other

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day, said that the report of the Revenue Board on the matter had just then been received and was under the consideration of Government.

" The ryots of my district have been enduring peculiar hardships during this fasli. In spite of the assurance of the Government that there would be an unfailing supply of water from the Mettur reservoir for cultivation from the 15th of July on which the ryots naturally relied and began their cultivation, they suddenly found that, after sowing the seeds, the supply of water was stopped from about the 15 of July to the first week of August. Consequently the seedlings that had been raised withered and the ploughed-up fields dried up. The supply was reported to have been stopped on account of certain repairs that were carried on in the supply outlet channel, from the Mettur reservoir. Whatever the reason may be, the fact is there that the ryots did not get the water for cultivation at the proper time and their *kuruvai* crop was considerably affected, and the later *samba* crop also was delayed by more than two weeks in the process of sowing and transplantation more particularly in the lower reaches of the old delta.

" The usual rains of October and November were defective during this fasli. In November there was a cyclonic storm with heavy rains which almost ruined the resources of the ryots in the southern taluks of the district. It has affected the other taluks of the district also, though in a less severe form. Hundreds of houses have been destroyed and cattle have perished in large numbers. In some places, there was also loss of human life. Fruit-bearing and timber trees were uprooted wholesale. Almost all the plantain gardens have been destroyed. The whole district was affected by the cyclone though I admit that the degree of damages caused might vary in different parts of the district.

" Sir, before the district could recover from the ravages of the cyclone, we got a spell of torrential rains in December, at a time when the rains were least wanted. The combined effect of these misfortunes has been that the yield of paddy has been considerably reduced below the normal and paddy pest and fungoid disease have also sprung up in a good many places making the earheads of paddy mere chaff.

" The facts that I have mentioned will surely be admitted by the officers of the district. But to make a recommendation for remission they rely upon the general Standing Orders of the Board of Revenue. I quite admit that the damages caused to the standing crops in some places may not be such as to entitle them for remission under the Board's Standing Orders. But I would bring it to the notice of the Government that the general Standing Orders of the Board of Revenue may not be of much use for the situation that we have, and any remissions granted by straining the Standing Orders cannot be of any real benefit to the landholders. The general income of

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the mirasidar has very much fallen this year on account of the reasons mentioned by me, not only in the outturn of paddy but in the loss to him among other things, of cattle, fruit-bearing and other trees and plantain and coconut gardens. This extraordinary situation requires that a special concession and remission should be granted to my district irrespective of the Board's Standing Orders.

" The claims of my district for special remission in the matter of kist are urgent as the collection of kist has already begun and the ryots have to sell almost the whole of their paddy to pay the kist and wait for a whole year for the next harvest.

" The other day, when replying to the budget debate, the Hon. the Revenue Member said that the people of the Tanjore district had learnt to cry well. I only wish, Sir, that they had learnt the art of crying sufficiently well so as to appeal to the heart of the Hon. the Revenue Member.

" Finally, Sir, I would appeal to the Government to give effect to the resolution passed by this House about the cancellation of the additional taxation on account of the Cauvery-Mettur Project and also to grant to the ryots of Tanjore a remission at least double of what has been announced by the Government now. With these few words I have great pleasure in supporting the motion."

Mr. H. M. Jagannatham:—" Mr. President, Sir, in supporting the cut motion moved by my friend I wish to lay before the Government certain long-standing grievances of the depressed classes in general and my community in particular. It is the well-defined policy of the Government to grant lands on darkhast to the depressed classes, but, the policy of the Government is not given effect to, owing to a variety of causes, chief among them being the spirit of antagonism on the part of the high-class Hindus towards the depressed classes. Sir, high-class Hindus living in villages do honestly believe that the moment the depressed classes become possessors of lands they will try to assert the rights and privileges of human beings. Therefore they feel that depressed classes might remain where they are. It is unfortunate that in this attempt on the part of caste Hindus, certain amount of support is being given by Revenue subordinates. There is such an alliance. Will not the object of the Government be defeated and is this the hope for us to raise from the lower strata of the society and live like men?

" In these circumstances we only look up to the Government for help and if the Government were to give deaf ear to our prayers our future hope is gone, gone for ever. Sir, we may not have silver and gold, but we have in abundance on equality, i.e., loyalty to the Government. If that loyalty were to be a disqualification, then, I confess, we have been in the wrong all these years. Any way, we are not going to revise our attitude with the Government. Sir, nowadays one hears in this Council and elesewhere cries of remission, remission in the land-tax and the

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Government say that they could go so far and no further. I quite sympathize with the Government in their very difficult position to deal with the land revenue problem, but I ask the Government why not grant the remaining 783,525 acres of land which is still to be assigned to the depressed classes given away to the depressed classes on liberal terms which might increase the land revenue of the Government when it might be quite possible for the Government to show further concessions to the groaning agriculturists? Sir, I feel somehow that the Government do not bestow their best thought to the problem of the agrarian trouble. I do not think that there is any lack of statesmanship in the present-day Government, but I only think that there is indifference in plenty on the part of the Government. Sir, I wish to convey to the Hon. the Revenue Member through you that he may be pleased to cause an enquiry into the matter of giving lands to the depressed classes and find out how many thousands of acres were given to the depressed classes and how much of them has been reclaimed by the high-class Hindus, no matter by what means, fair or foul. If he takes the trouble of investigating into the matter I am sure, Sir, he will be convinced of the truth of the statement I have made on the floor of this hon. House.

" Now, Sir, I turn to the grievances of my community—the Arundatiyas. It is a well-known fact that the community to which I have the honour to belong is the poorest in so far as they were homeless for a long time. In addition to the poverty of the community, the floods of 1930 and the cyclone of 1934 in the city of Madras have made even those who had small huts homeless. The homeless family, my community, in this city alone number over 300. These 300 families have been sending petitions after petitions through our protector, the Labour Commissioner, to the Government to no purpose. Sir, after long number of years the Government were pleased to grant sites for 15 families in the Napier Park. Thanks to this small mercy. Are these 300 families to live in the open air and die? Sir, in this connexion I am reminded of the saying of Lord Christ, 'The birds of the air have their nests, beasts have their lair but the son of man has no place to lay his head.' Here, in Madras, Sir, the beggars have their beggars' home, animals have their pinjarapole, but the Arundatiyas have no place to lay their heads. Yet, Sir, we are under the most civilized and most humanitarian of governments—the British Government. It cannot be said, Sir, that there is no available land to accommodate these pathetic families, for, I know there is a plot of land available in Redoubt Road, Egmore, which will accommodate easily over 200 families. May I appeal to the Hon. Sir Charles Souter who is known for his generosity and sympathy for the poor and who is loved for his kindness towards the suffering humanity to get us this piece of land at an early date and put an end to the sufferings of the 300 families I have mentioned. One more request, Mr. President, and I have done. This request relates to a bit of land bearing R.S. No. 233/53 (Perambur) in Chucklipalayam which was being asked to be given away to the homeless members of my community for the past 14 or 15 years, but for some reason or other

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this request of ours was being overlooked. Sir, during the time of Mr. T. G. Rutherford as Collector of Madras, whose sympathy I must say has caused the removal of the several unauthorized encroachments on the land by the rich landlords of the locality ordered it to be assigned to the said persons. But, Sir, I feel sorry to say that the assignment is postponed to an unlimited time for want of a sum of Rs. 1,500 for the purpose of providing civic amenities such as the side drains, street-metalling, water-taps, etc., to satisfy the City Municipal Act. In this connexion I must appeal to the Hon. the Revenue Member to issue a direction to the Collector of Madras not to sell the said land by public auction, which will be very injurious to the interests of poor Arundatiyas, who will not be able to compete in bidding with their richer brethren and the poor helpless, homeless people will continue to be in the same state. I have said so much about the disadvantages of public auction, because, from my interview with the Collector I understood that, unless Government were to order otherwise the land would only be sold in public auction and the sale-proceeds will be utilized for their amenities. I must say that the salvation lies only in assigning lands free of cost. May I therefore request the Government to enquire into the matter and provide the necessary amount from the current budget for the purpose and render us the much-needed relief. Sir, the whole speech of mine is not conceived in a spirit of criticism but it is a speech containing a catalogue of our grievances thought out in a prayerful mood.

"I hope the Government will pay heed to what has been said and I sincerely trust that our cry will not be a cry in the wilderness."

15 * Diwan Bahadur T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar:—"Sir, before
1. we proceed further, I want to move that the further consideration of this motion as well as motions Nos. 2 to 83 be adjourned till cut motion No. 84 is disposed of. Sir, the point is this: this question of land revenue remission is not a question which requires much argument. Neither on this side nor on the other side is any argument required about the necessity for remission. It is only a question on the Treasury Bench of their finding funds for the purpose of this remission. The Hon. the Revenue Member himself stated that the ryot deserves remission and if he (the Hon. the Revenue Member) is not able to give more, it is because he is not able to spare more funds. So a large body of Members of this House—I find more than a dozen people—belonging to all groups of this House have given notice of a motion to find means whereby the additional funds required for giving this additional remission to the ryots could be found. The motion consists of two parts: (1) that the remission that is given ought to be 25 per cent and not $12\frac{1}{2}$ or $18\frac{3}{4}$ per cent that is now sanctioned by the Government and (2) the means whereby the necessary funds could be found. Both these things are mentioned in the motion itself. It may be that some of us may think that the minimum of Rs. 40 mentioned in that motion will work very hard on poor clerks."

* The Hon. Sir CHARLES SOUTER:—" On a point of order, Mr. President. Is the hon. Member arguing on the motion for postponement or he is arguing on the merits of the motion (motion No. 84) which he wants the House to take up for consideration now? "

Diwan Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGAM CHETTIYAR:—" I am giving reasons for the postponement of the consideration of this motion and am also arguing for giving preference to motion No. 84 being taken up now for consideration. My motion is that the further consideration of cut motion No. 1 and consideration of cut motions Nos. 2 to 83 do stand over until cut motion No. 84 is disposed of. That strictly is in order."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—" Under Standing Order No. 33 the hon. Member is at liberty to move 'that any meeting or business be adjourned or postponed or that the Council pass to the business next in order in the statement of business at any time and without previous notice as a distinct question but not so as to interrupt a speech.' I may ask the hon. Member to mention the necessity or importance of the motion that he is now moving and not to go into the merits of the motion which he wants to be taken up now."

* Diwan Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGAM CHETTIYAR:—" I was only saying how it was important. However, I do not want to go very much further into that. I was only saying that probably with reference to the limit of Rs. 40 fixed in that motion objection might be taken up by several other hon. Members of this House. But that is a matter which will have to be considered when that motion is taken up. Whatever it is, that motion deals with the important question of finding the means as well as of emphasising the need of at least 25 per cent reduction. I beg to submit it ought to have preference over other motions before the House. So I beg to move that the consideration of other motions do stand adjourned until motion No. 84 is considered and disposed of."

Mr. K. P. RAMAN MENON:—" I have great pleasure in seconding Mr. Ramalingam Chettiyar's motion. No doubt it is necessary to discuss these cut motions also but such a discussion leads us nowhere. Here is a comprehensive motion which has been allowed and which proposes the enhancement of land revenue remission from 12½ per cent o 25 per cent. There is also the other cognate proposition as to how to find the money which will be wanting if further remission is to be made. The question of giving further remission is a subject which is more important than any other subject dealing with the general policy of the Government. And the further proposition as to how to find money to make good the loss is equally important. I therefore have great pleasure in supporting Mr. Ramalingam Chettiyar's motion."

* The Hon. Sir CHARLES SOUTER:—" Mr. President, with all respect to the ruling which you have just now given, may I suggest that rule 30 (4) of the Madras Legislative Council Rules governs this case.

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I should like to point out that in my humble opinion this is not governed by Standing Order No. 33, and that that is not the correct view to be taken. The rule which governs a case like this is rule 30 (4) of the Madras Legislative Council Rules. Those rules are framed under section 72-D (5) of the Government of India Act and those are statutory rules and are binding on this Council. Standing Order No. 33 is only a Standing Order of this Council and that is subject to rules framed under the Government of India Act. Now, Sir, rule 30 (4) of the Madras Legislative Council Rules states as follows:—

'No motion shall be made for reduction of a grant as a whole until all motions for the omission or reduction of definite items within that grant has been discussed.'

Now, Sir, if you look at the cut motions which have been tabled, you will see that all cut motions up to and including motion No. 62, referred to in the words of rule 30 (4), as 'motions for the omission or reduction of definite items,' and also motions Nos. 63 to 84, to the latter of which the hon. the Mover of this motion refers—all these motions refer to the reduction of the allotment of Rs. 16,95,700—Demand I—Land Revenue and therefore under this rule all the motions for cuts of different items under the total head shall be discussed first before any motion for the reduction of the whole grant can be moved. I may point out in addition that the rules under section 72-D of the Government of India Act are statutory rules and are binding on the Legislative Council, no matter what our Standing Orders may say on the point. It seems to me therefore that this motion is out of order."

-30 .m. * Diwan Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGAM CHETTIYAR:—" I am afraid that the Hon. the Revenue Member has not noticed what exactly is referred to in sub-rule (4) of rule 30. It says—

'No motion shall be made for the reduction of a grant as a whole until all motions for the omission or reduction of definite items within that grant have been discussed.'

It will be noticed that every one of the motions from Nos. 1 to 83 is not a motion for the omission of any particular item but for reduction in the total, just as this motion is."

* The Hon. Sir CHARLES SOUTER:—" May I just ask the hon. Member to read No. 61?"

Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI:—" I move, Sir, that item No. 33 may be taken up for consideration instead of No. 84."

* The Hon. Sir CHARLES SOUTER:—" But before we proceed to that, I should personally like to have a ruling on the point first."

* Diwan Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGAM CHETTIYAR:—" Item No. 61 again is for the reduction of the allotment of Rs. 54,900 for maintenance of municipal and union surveys by Rs. 100. I submit that none of these is a motion for the omission or reduction of definite items. It is the whole that they deal with. In any case, the purpose in view will be served if we say that we pass over all these 83 items instead of moving a motion to the effect that we give preference to item No. 84

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and that the items up to No. 83 do stand over till No. 84 is disposed of. I think our object will be attained if we say that we pass over items up to No. 83."

* The Hon. Sir Charles Souter:—" First of all may I point out that it is just as well to keep these matters absolutely clear. If the hon. Member will look at the Madras Legislative Council Rules, No. 26 (2), he will find there that items are defined. It says—

'Each demand shall contain, first, a statement of the total grant proposed, and then a statement of the detailed estimate under each grant divided into items.' "

* Mr. V. T. Arasu:—" May I make one submission, Sir? I submit that in regard to the matter of interpreting the rules we should take rather a broad view of things. I should like to ask, Sir, supposing notice of no other motion was given except No. 84, would the Hon. the Revenue Member still insist that this motion should not be taken up for discussion because no other item refers to the demand as a whole? I do not believe he would do so."

* The Hon. the President:—" The question is what happens when notice of several such motions has been given already."

Mr. V. T. Arasu:—" Let these items be passed over as not being moved."

* The Hon. the President:—" I should like to consider the matter more deeply before I give a ruling on this particular point of order. I hope it will not inconvenience the House if we adjourn now and meet again at 3 p.m."

The House then adjourned for lunch.

(After Lunch—3 p.m.)

* The Hon. the President:—" I promised to give a ruling on the point of order raised by the Hon. the Revenue Member. Standing Order No. 33 lays down that a motion may be made that—

'(i) any meeting or business be adjourned or postponed; or
(ii) the Council pass to the business next in order.'

The proviso to this Standing Order clearly saves from the operation of this Standing Order motions of the first kind being made. It is however doubtful whether it can apply to the second category of motions, namely, that the Council pass to the business next in order. In any view of the matter, clause (4) of rule 30 of the Madras Legislative Council Rules clearly lays down that—

'No motion shall be made for the reduction of a grant as a whole until all motions for the omission or reduction of definite items within that grant have been discussed.'

In this case several of the items from Nos. 2 to 83 are in the nature of motions for the omission or reduction of definite items within the grant and they have not been discussed. In previous years when a substantial reduction in the whole grant was sought to be made, all items of cut motions previous to that particular motion for making a

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substantial reduction in the whole grant were either withdrawn or disposed of. Since the rules have a superior statutory authority, it has to be held that under clause (4) of rule 30 of the Madras Legislative Council Rules, no motion of the type of 'cut motion' No. 84 can be made at this stage. And in view thereof it will be futile to entertain a motion for passing on to that item. I therefore rule that the present motion will not be in order."

Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari:—" Mr. President, Sir, I move that item No. 33 be taken up first for the consideration of the House before other items are taken up."

* The Hon. the President:—" I could see there is absolutely no difference between item Nos. 1 and 33 except this: that in the case of item No. 1 the object of the motion is given within brackets as 'To criticise policy' and in the case of item No. 33 the object is given as 'To discuss the policy of land assessment and remission and to press for further remission to the extent of 25 per cent of the demand.' The matter [a] that is printed within parentheses is only given as a sort of information to the Government, to indicate to the Government the subject-matter that would be discussed on that particular motion for reduction of Rs. 100. Therefore I do not see any substantial difference between motion Nos. 1 and 33. If on the other hand the hon. Member wants to have a definite voting on the question referred to under item No. 33, I would suggest it would be enough if any responsible Member from the Opposition said that the voting on motion No. 1 would be tant-amount to voting on the question referred to as the object of motion No. 33."

* Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar:—" Sir, I just want to enquire whether the consideration of the question of reduction of salaries can form part of the discussion of land revenue policy. If that is so will it be open to the Leader of the Opposition or any other authorized person on this side to say that the first motion if carried would mean that the salaries should be reduced as is stated in motion No. 84."

* The Hon. the President:—" That is what I have tried to suggest."

Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar:—" I understand you to refer to motion No. 33. The same principle may be pursued in regard to motion No. 84 also."

* The Hon. the President:—" The object indicated under motion No. 33 is to press for further remission to the extent of 25 per cent of the demand. Mr. Krishnayya Choudari wanted to move that all items up to and including No. 32 be passed over and item No. 33 be taken up. In that connexion I said that the question of land revenue policy referred to under item No. 33 can be discussed even under item No. 1."

[a] (To discuss the policy of land assessment and remission and to press for further remission to the extent of 25 per cent of the demand.)

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"As regards the question of salaries which has been raised, if the Hon. the Leader of the Opposition wants that the question of salaries also should be included in item No. 1, he will be at liberty to make that declaration and voting will proceed on that basis."

* The Hon. Sir K. V. REDDI NAYUDU :—" Sir, I should like to know whether what is mentioned in motion No. 84 refers to salaries in all the departments. If the object of the motion is to make a reduction of 25 per cent in the salaries of all the departments above Rs. 40 per mensem, I should like to say that, that motion moved on this Demand alone, cannot be supposed to have that effect because salaries in all the departments are covered by the various Demands and other Members of Government will have a right of reply. On the other hand, if all that the House wants to discuss is the question of the reduction of salaries covered by this Demand only, it will be another matter."

Diwan Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGAM CHETTIYAR :—" We shall speak of salaries covered by this Demand alone."

The Hon. Sir K. V. REDDI NAYUDU :—" But it is not said so."

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" As regards that, the Hon. the Leader of the House may be left to infer what the real intention of the House is. For I am sure when once this resolution is carried with regard to the Revenue Department, if the Government are going to give effect to it, they cannot give effect to it in the Revenue Department alone without giving effect to it in other departments as well."

* Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" Sir, I should like to point out that similar cut motions have been given notice of with regard to all the Demands and those motions also involve the reduction of salaries in the respective departments."

* The Hon. Sir CHARLES SOUTER :—" But that does not mean that those Members of Government who will move those Demands cannot exercise the right of discussing those Demands. In the present case, motion No. 1 does not necessarily limit itself to the Revenue Department alone."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Now that we are discussing the Revenue Demand, any voting upon this question will pertain only to the Revenue Department and not to all the departments."

* The Hon. Sir CHARLES SOUTER :—" That will make it clear, Sir. I accept your ruling on the point."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The discussion on the first motion will continue."

Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI :—" Mr. President, Sir, I should like to bring to the notice of the Hon. the Revenue Member that it is high time that the land revenue system was brought under statutory control, so that resettlements might not be effected by pure executive orders.

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-15 .m. "If we have a definite statute on this matter, the future Provincial Legislative Assembly will have the benefit of some definite views. At present the question of granting remissions is left to the discretion of the Government and the Hon. Member in charge. So, our privileges are curtailed. I would suggest to the Hon. the Revenue Member that the land revenue system be codified into a statute, so that the elected representatives may be responsible for its administration.

"Another point, Sir. The depression is so great that we are not able to pay the land revenue assessment regularly. Unfortunately this year for want of seasonal rains, Guntur and other districts have suffered very much. The Hon. the Revenue Member paid a visit to the Guntur district and has seen personally the distress prevailing there. I need not tell him much about the real difficulties of the ryots, as he is himself aware of them. Other districts also are suffering from these difficulties. I hope the Revenue authorities in the districts would have brought this fact to the notice of the Government.

"Another point, Sir. Sometimes we suffer from want of rains; sometimes when the crop is ready to be harvested, there is heavy rain and the crops are spoiled; thus people suffer on account of excess of rain. In seasons when we do not require any rain, there is heavy rain and the crops are spoiled. The Hon. the Revenue Member himself is fully aware of the sufferings of the ryots and I need not dilate upon the matter. I therefore appeal to the Hon. the Revenue Member to give relief not only to Guntur district but to other districts also.

"We are very grateful to the Hon. the Revenue Member for the policy that he has enunciated, viz., putting off the collection of the re-settlement rates. At the same time they want to pass orders increasing the land revenue assessment. When the Government are not able to collect the increased land revenue assessment, I do not know why they are anxious to pass orders increasing the land revenue. The present Government should not go on increasing the land assessment in order that the future Government may be able to carry on the administration easily. The Government themselves are convinced and have seen during the last four years that they are not able to increase the land revenue assessment.

"I wish to bring another point to the notice of the Government. The zamindars should not collect from their tenants more assessment than what the adjoining ryotwari tenant is paying to the Government. The Government should see that this policy is carried out. If there is already provision in the Act enabling the Government to see that the zamindar does not collect more land revenue from his tenant, let them give effect to that provision; otherwise let them bring forward the necessary legislation. The peshkash which the zamindar is paying is based on certain considerations. The zamindar pays the same peshkash always and it is never increased. One-third of our Presidency consists of zamindari area and we are getting peshkash of Rs. 50 lakhs from it. But the money which we are spending on the zamindari

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areas from the general tax-payer is very much greater than that sum. The zamindar should not get any advantage at the expense of the general tax-payer. With these observations, I support the motion moved by my hon. Friend, Mr. Nachiyappa Gounder."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"There is not much time now; the Demand has to be put to vote now and the Hon. the Finance Member has to reply. The Leader of the Opposition may speak now, if he wants to do so."

* Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Sir, I am of the opinion that more relief ought to be given to the ryot in the matter of land revenue. As was pointed out at the time of the general budget discussion, the economic condition of the ryot is very poor, and has not improved; prices are not rising as some people believe. Several years of depression has made the ryot's economic stamina less than what it was three or four years ago. The small amount of remission which the Government propose to give this year will not give adequate relief to the ryot. The Government must try and make up their minds as to what amount of remission is necessary to give real relief to the ryot.

"The general cut in salaries has been suggested with an idea of informing the Government how money could be found for this purpose. Personally I am not in favour of a cut of 25 per cent in the case of persons getting Rs. 40 and more per mensem. When we ourselves are feeling the economic depression, I feel diffident to suggest a cut of that amount on lower salaries. I would suggest that in the case of persons getting between Rs. 125 and Rs. 200 a cut of 10 per cent, and from Rs. 200 and upwards a cut of 20 per cent can be made. With regard to the imposition of a cut in the salaries of higher-paid officers, a vote can be taken on this cut motion. I think it would be possible for the Government to find the money necessary, if they adopt the cut I have suggested in the salaries of Government servants."

* Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—"Sir, I had not the least idea of joining in this debate. But considering that important questions have been raised in this debate and considering the present economic condition of the country, I think I should state what I believe to be the right view which the Government should take in the matter of remissions. With regard to the second question, namely, cut in salaries, I must state that I am not in favour of it. My reasons will be given later. As regards the first question, namely, remission, I think the policy pursued by the Government of granting remission at a flat rate is not a correct one. It is not right that the Government should give remission at a flat rate to all districts, irrespective of the varying economic condition of several districts. There are some districts where the prices are gradually rising; there are some taluks and divisions where the prices have not risen. The Hon. the Finance Member stated that prices are rising steadily. It is necessary that an enquiry should be made in each district to see whether the prices are really on the rising side. It is necessary to see whether it is right to give a flat rate of remission to all districts. There are various grades of suffering in

various districts. We have heard the cry from Tanjore that it has been very badly affected this year and last year and that it should be given much greater remission. Similarly my district Ganjam was hard hit by the monsoon and there is great economic distress in certain taluks and firkas of that district. My friend suggests to me the condition of the Ceded districts. No doubt Ceded districts also are in a bad economic condition. The House always pays much attention to the Ceded districts. An enquiry should be made in the economic condition of the Ceded districts also. Without knowing the areas that are really affected, the giving of a flat rate of remission does not benefit the real sufferer. The Government should concentrate their attention on those areas which are really suffering from the economic depression; if that is done, distribution will be more profitable and equitable. In that case, such remission as is necessary can be given to areas where there is really great economic distress. It may be necessary in some cases to increase the rate of remission. This flat rate does not really help the needy ryot. This flat rate does not mean much to a ryot who pays an assessment of Rs. 30, 40 or 100. It does not improve his material and economic condition. There is no good of giving a uniform rate of remission to all districts. I would urge that that policy is not fair; it is not in the interests of the ryot; it does not relieve the suffering of the ryot. It is necessary that the Government should ascertain the state of suffering in the various districts. Remission should be given on a liberal scale in the case of areas which have been affected by floods or other causes. In such cases it will not only be necessary to grant liberal remissions but to advance loans also to the ryots. The Government should concentrate its attention on areas where there is actual distress and give adequate remission. I do not think that other districts will envy it. Each district will be judged on its merits and will be given reasonable remission. I do not think there will be any scramble on the part of the various districts for getting more and more remission. Each district will put forward its case through the Collector concerned. The Collectors of the districts can easily ascertain whether their districts have been badly affected. We can get authoritative reports from the local administrators; I do not think there will be any difficulty in ascertaining the correct state of affairs; nor will there be any competition among the districts to get more and more remission. There is no use of granting remissions indiscriminately. You must give adequate remission to districts which are actually suffering.

"With regard to the second point, I do not think there is any need to effect any cut in the salaries; the budget has been balanced; there is money available for development departments; what is the reason for imposing cut on salaries? Is it merely for the sake of pleasure that we should reduce the salaries of the officers? If we have any deficit or if we are not able to make both ends meet, then I can understand the need or necessity for imposing salary cuts. Sir, salary cuts were made before, and there was a necessity then for such cuts, but they were later on restored when there was financial equilibrium. No reason, so far as I know, has been assigned during the

discussions for these salary cuts. Salary cuts may of course be made; but not in this way by bringing up a cut motion. If it is considered that the salaries of our officers are too high in this Province, then it has got to be investigated in view of the present economic conditions, in view of the nature of the work and in view of other circumstances in the various departments, to find out whether the salaries are proportionate to the work done by the various officers in the different departments. An elaborate enquiry is necessary to find out whether the services are paid adequately. If you want a proper service, you must pay adequate remuneration; otherwise, what will happen? As we know, in other places where salaries are low, the officers are prone to seek ways and means which we cannot encourage. Therefore, Sir, it is necessary on grounds of public morality, public security and public interests, that we should not at this stage inflict any salary cuts. After all, as I said, is there any financial need for these cuts? There is none; no reason has been assigned for imposing them. If salaries as a whole are to be graded or regraded, then an elaborate enquiry is necessary, by a commission or committee. We have had such commissions in the past which have gone into the question of fixing a time-scale of salaries, and when there was enough money in the treasury, time-scales were fixed. And in the beginning of the Montford Reforms, a committee sat for this purpose and recommended scales of pay which cost more than a crore of rupees on account of increment in salaries. Such a committee, I say, will have to be set up now, if the salaries are to be cut, in view of the new circumstances and the new dispensation that will shortly come into being."

The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The demand will have to be put at 3-45 p.m."

* The Hon. Sir CHARLES SOUTER:—"Sir, I propose first to take up those points which were raised first and then to end up with my remarks on the proposal that there should be a general cut on the salaries of Government servants; because, I take it that although this particular token cut on this particular grant relates only to land revenue subordinates, the movers of this motion really wished that this principle should be generally applied to all Government services. I hope the House will excuse me if I do not speak well up—I happen to have had a very bad throat for the last few days; and it is only with the greatest difficulty that I am able to keep my throat in order now; and I trust that if I am not heard quite well, hon. Members will excuse me.

"Well, Sir, the first question that has been raised by Mr. Nachiyappa Gounder is that the recent policy regarding resettlement should be given retrospective effect; and in particular, as I understood him, in the district of Salem, i.e., that portion of it which has so far been resettled. I told the House the other day, Sir, that I could not possibly agree to this. This policy which we have just recently formulated is a very different one indeed from the policy of the Government in the past; and I may tell the House that it was with very considerable hesitation that the Government came to this decision,—I may add, not because we have no sympathy with the ryots in their present condition,

but because in general, we do not want, as I said when we first announced our policy, to bind in any way the future Government that may come into being shortly. I think also that the policy we have adopted carries out our intentions; but to say that because in the past we have come to a definite decision that certain districts should bear a certain increase in assessment, this new policy should apply to them also, is I think wrong.

" Then, Sir, the next point which was raised was the question of land revenue legislation. Here I quite agree that it would be a great advantage to all those concerned if we did have an Act which laid down in specific terms—passed by this House and accepted by the Government—the law with respect to land revenue taxation. I think hon. members must be aware of the various attempts which have been made in the past to bring forth such legislation, and they must be aware also of how in every case those attempts have, for some reason or other, proved futile. As far as I have been able to read the papers on the past attempts at legislation, the main cause for this was that no two sections of this House seemed to be in agreement as to what was really required. Anyhow, that is what struck me when I waded through the relevant papers. When this House finally did make up its mind to enact a Bill and send it up to the Government of India, the Government of India took strong objection to it, and that Bill had therefore to be dropped. That, as far as I can understand the position, is the brief history of land revenue legislation in this House. As I say, I quite admit that such legislation might be beneficial; but here again, I should like to hit back at the Opposition for a moment. (Laughter.) I have been reminded times out of number, especially in reference to my perfectly innocuous Tobacco Bill, that this was not the proper time to bring forward legislation of that kind on the ground that this House does not represent the feeling in the country. Does it represent the feeling in the country any more in connexion with legislation of this kind than in connexion with that other legislation (Hear, hear)? Of course it is but a debating point; I merely put it to you. But that is how the situation strikes me.

" Then, Sir, I think it is unnecessary for me to refer to the many points of detail. Various members asked that particular remissions or benefits should be granted to particular places. I am sorry about this, because within the time at my disposal, I am afraid I cannot refer to all those points in any detail. The districts mentioned particularly were I think Tanjore, Guntur, Salem and South Kanara; and the request in their case was, let me say, made with the largest amount of tears,—may be the most vocal, as Mr. Bhatt says. Well, Sir, all that I can say is this, as I said the other day, any remissions that we grant are quite apart from the ordinary remissions under the Board's Standing Orders; and there is no reason at all why if in any taluk of Guntur for instance, or the Shiyali or the Mannargudi taluk or the Nannilam taluk of the Tanjore district, there has been a pest or a cyclone, the effects of those calamities should not bring those areas

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within the ambit of the Board's Standing Orders and why they should not get extra remissions. Government, I may say, are always prepared to do so; but it depends entirely on the local conditions. Even my friend Mr. G. Ranganatha Mudaliyar agreed that in Tanjore some places were very much worse than others. But if the Government say that Tanjore is not as a whole entitled to extra remissions on account of these calamities, will it be against what the leading mirasdars of Tanjore themselves say? Anyway, I should be quite prepared to consider any representations on this matter from the local officers, and I may assure hon. Members that the Government will not view those representations unsympathetically.

"Then, Sir, I think my friend Mr. Nachiyappa Gounder was not very consistent in asking for the extension of the activities of the Survey department, so that all zamindaris, and panchyat boards may be surveyed. At the same time he would abolish the Survey department altogether. But how he proposes to do that, I do not know. I wish, however, before he puts forward any proposal for the survey of panchayat and zamindari areas, that he will ask himself who is to bear the cost.

"Another important point brought up before this House by Sir Parasuramdas Patro was the inequity of having a flat-rate of remissions. I need not remind the House that when I spoke on this subject last, my views on the matter were entirely in conformity with Sir Parasuramdas's but his ideas as to how to differentiate do not, I must admit, appeal to me. I do not know how that will be possible, and so far, I have not been able to see any way out of it. I do know, for instance, whether in Tanjore district, if we gave Negapatam a larger grant of these remissions, the Pattukottai people, mirasdars and ryots, would not be up in arms, and I have no doubt that they would be able to advance as good and just arguments as the Negapatam people advanced for getting their due share. (Interruption.) True, under the flat rate everybody gets something. I quite agree it is not a very satisfactory method of doing it; but in spite of my asking the House some time ago if any Member could possibly let me have some workable and feasible formula for working this up, I am very sorry to say that I have seen none so far.

"Then, I come to the question of the salary cuts. On that, I speak with a certain amount of feeling; I may tell you, if hon. Members would only take my bank pass book which came only five or six days ago, they would say 'For Heaven's sake, do not cut the Revenue Member's salary.' I think they would in all honesty do that. (An Hon. Member: 'What about other Members of Government?') Well, I do not know about the other Members; I will take this House into my confidence and say that my bank balance has been overdrawn. Let me say this: Dr. Subbarayan proposed a cut of 10 per cent for those drawing Rs. 125 and 20 per cent for those drawing more than Rs. 200. The rest of the House, according to the various motions that I find here, has proposed an all-round cut of 20 per cent. Now, Sir, I think

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perhaps hon. Members are not aware of the powers this Local Government have for imposing cuts. For one thing, it is only by an Act of Parliament that any cut can be imposed on the salary of any member of an All-India Service, in other words, of a member of the services appointed by the Secretary of State. That is clear. Secondly, even as regards members of the services under the rule-making powers of the Local Government, the Local Government have no power to interfere with the salaries of those who were in service substantively before March 1926.

3.45 p.m. "In other words, it is only those in the subordinate services under the rule-making powers of the Madras Government, who have been appointed since March 1926 that can come under a cut imposed by the local Government. Now, does this House for a moment think, after all the trouble that arose before when the 10 per cent cut was imposed on Imperial Services, that the House of Commons is ever likely to pass anything of the kind, especially in provinces which claim to have balanced their budgets? I cannot think they would. And would they pass, or would the Secretary of State sanction, a cut in the salaries of those who are safeguarded? Now, I think—perhaps it is not relevant to mention that this question of cut in salaries is one of the main reasons—anyhow it was a very strong reason for those safeguards which have been put in the new Government of India Act. I can assure hon. Members that notwithstanding the temporary dissatisfaction when a cut of 10 per cent was imposed before—because every one must be dissatisfied when his pay is cut—that cut was borne quite willingly by all of us; but the apprehension was that having once proposed a cut of this kind, their tenure of office in the future was not safe and that feeling I know personally from conversations with many I have had all over the Presidency, simply ran through the whole of the services. I think really before you interfere with the pay that is promised for the public services and what they expect to receive, you must make up your mind as to whether you are going to have a contented service or you are not. I can assure hon. Members that if they play about with the salaries of Government servants in this way, they are not going to have a contented service; they never can have and I think the consequences to which my hon. Friend, Sir A. P. Patro referred, are bound to happen. We have during the last 20 or more years attempted by all we can to improve the standard of morality of our public services. By carrying a cut motion of this kind we will be going back on the whole of the work which we have taken all these years to consolidate. But, I do not think, Sir, this motion is a wise one any way; and does it come, may I ask, with any grace from Members of the Legislative Council? You know, of course when we had our cut in pay some time ago, we also had an all-round cut in our travelling allowance. That cut in travelling allowance has not been restored, and yet, I think, as hon. Members know, their travelling allowance has been restored to the original level. That is the fact. Our travelling allowance has not been restored. Yours has been. Well, Sir, on these grounds, I must oppose this cut motion and I trust the House will not pass it."

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Mr. K. P. RAMAN MENON :—" Mr. President, may I be permitted to make a statement? I believe I am voicing the view of very many Members of this House when I say that, as a matter of fact, they are all prepared to vote for a proposition which would make it appear that the remissions granted by Government under land revenue are inadequate; whereas there are very many others who are not agreeable to the proposed cut in salaries. Will it be possible for you, Mr. President, to split the proposition into two and then take a vote upon remissions separately from a vote upon salaries cut? "

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I think the motion of reduction of Rs. 100 cannot be divided into fifty and fifty."

* The KUMARARAJA OF VENKATAGIRI :—" Sir, on behalf of many Members who feel that the remissions afforded by the Government are not adequate, I wish to state that if we vote on this cut motion particularly after what you have just now stated, on the representation made by my hon. Friend, Mr. Raman Menon, we desire to be understood that we are not voting for the cut in the salaries for the various reasons put forward by my hon. Friend, Sir A. P. Patro and also by the Hon. Sir Charles Souter. It is just to make our position clearly understood that I make this statement."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I will now put the motion to the vote of the House. The question is that the allotment of Rs. 37,700 for charges of Administration—Taluk Establishments—Pay of Establishments be reduced by Rs. 100."

The motion was declared lost.

A poll was demanded and the House divided thus:

Ayes.

1 Mr. G. Ranganatha Mudaliyar.
2 Dr. P. Subbarayan.
3 Mr. K. R. Venkatarama Ayyar.
4 ,, Abdul Hameed Khan.
5 ,, T. S. Ramaswami Ayyar.
6 ,, V. T. Arasu.
7 ,, A. B. Shetty.
8 ,, B. Pocker.
9 ,, M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar.
10 ,, Ahmed Miran.
11 ,, P. Peddi Raju.
12 ,, K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder.
13 ,, A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar.
14 Diwan Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar.
15 Mr. C. R. Parthasarathi Ayyangar.
16 Rai Sahib C. Kolanda Reddi.
17 Mr. K. Koti Reddi.
18 ,, V. P. Narayanan Nambiyar.
19 ,, N. Halasyam Ayyar.
20 Rao Bahadur R. K. Venugopal Nayudu.
21 Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt.
22 Mrs. A. Rukmani Lakshmipathi.
23 Mr. P. Ratnavelu Thevar.
24 ,, C. Obi Reddi.
25 ,, A. Ramakrishna Reddi.
26 ,, P. V. Krishnayya Choudari.
27 ,, Mahboob Ali Baig.

Noes.

1 The Hon. Rai Bahadur Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu.
2 ,, Rao Bahadur A. T. Pannirselvam.
3 ,, Sir Charles Souter
4 ,, Mr. G. T. H. Bracken.
5 ,, Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar.
6 The Hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan.
7 ,, the Raja of Bobbili.
8 Diwan Bahadur C. Natesa Mudaliyar.
9 Mrs. K. Alamelumangathayaramma.
10 Mr. W. Scott Brown.
11 ,, H. R. Uzielli.
12 ,, C. E. Jones.
13 ,, G. T. Boag.

Noes—cont.

14 Mr. R. Madanagopal Nayudu.
15 „ T. B. Russell.
16 „ T. Sundara Rao Nayudu.
17 Khan Sahib Syed Tajuddin Sahib Bahadur.
18 Mr. I. C. Iswaran Pillai.
19 Diwan Bahadur R. Srinivasan.
20 „ A. Appadurai Pillai.
21 Mr. M. Devadasan.
22 Rao Sahib N. Sivaraj.
23 The Maharaja of Parlakimedi.
24 Mr. P. C. Moses.
25 „ P. V. Rajagopala Pillai.
26 „ V. G. Vasudeva Pillai.
27 The Zamindar of Kirlampudi.
28 Mr. G. F. F. Foulkes.
29 „ N. *Ranganadhan.*
30 „ G. Simhachalam Pantulu.
31 „ W. P. A. Soundarapandian.
32 Rao Sahib V. Dharmalingam Pillai
33 Rao Bahadur D. Krishnamurti.
34 „ Sir A. P. Patro.
35 Mr. A. V. Bhanoji Rao.
36 Diwan Bahadur A. M. M. Murugappa Chettiyar.
37 The Zamindar of Bodinayakanur.
38 Mr. Daniel Thomas.
39 „ G. Sriramulu.
40 Rao Sahib C. Jayaram Nayudu.
41 „ Pandit Ganala Ramamurti.
42 Mr. A. Harischandrudu.
43 „ I. Sandana Gounder.
44 „ G. R. Premayya.
45 „ M. S. Sreshta.
46 Rao Sahib V. I. Muniswami Pillai
47 Rao Bahadur S. A. Nanjappa Bahadur.
48 Mr. C. Basu Dev.

Neutral.

1 Sriman M. G. Patnaik Mahasayo.
2 The Kumararaja of Venkatagiri.
3 Khan Bahadur Schamnad Sahib Bahadur.
4 Mr. C. Indrayya.
5 Mr. A. Harischandrudu.
6 „ K. P. Raman Menon.
7 Diwan Bahadur M. Gopalaswami Mudaliyar.

Ayes. 27. *Noes.* 48. *Neutral.* 7.

The motion was lost.

The main Demand was then put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND II—EXCISE—TRANSFERRED.

* The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"Mr. President, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor I move that Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 30,95,100 under Demand II—Excise—Transferred."

* Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—"Sir, I beg to move the cut motion standing in my name, namely—

> '*to reduce the allotment of Rs.* 11,400 *for Excise—Transferred—Excise Commissioner—Pay of Officers by Rs.* 100.'

My object in moving this motion is to criticize the Excise policy of the Government. Sir, under 'Excise,' the Government have held out certain promises for ultimately putting down the drink evil and made declarations in this Council, I believe in the year 1926 or so that they would achieve that object in a period of 20 years. To say the least, after the present Ministry came into power we do not find anything to show that they are moving in that direction. On the other hand, instead of pursuing a policy of prohibition by degrees, with a view to achieving the object in a limited time, we find that the Government have been adopting methods which show that they are rather encouraging this drink evil.

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" First of all, Sir, when they made this declaration they showed 4
some progress in this direction; they closed down a few shops in certain areas and also took up some area for trial in the district of Salem. But after some time they again with the excuse that those areas demanded the existence of those shops opened and put an end to their experiment. I believe I can say without fear of contradiction that the drink of intoxicants especially in our country is a very great evil and that we should save the ignorant and poor people from this demon of drink. So the Government should have taken a stronger attitude and seen their way to have the necessary establishments in such areas to see that the illicit distillation or other sources of having liquor is put down. But on the other hand, the Government take advantage of a few people who are induced to put mahazars for having liquor shops amidst them and the department also join hands with those few drunkards and make much of the situation and want to reopen shops even in greater numbers. In this way they have gone back in the matter of prohibition and have introduced drink in those areas where they stopped once. The worst of it is that in the budget memorandum we see that the duty on country spirit has been reduced by 25 per cent from 1st April 1935. It is a thing which shows that the Government are earnest to induce the people to take to drink at a cheap rate and thus encourage the drink evil. It may be an argument for Government, Sir, that on account of depression they want to make the drinks cheap to people who cannot afford to pay much. If they can show that spirit with regard to land revenue, we can appreciate it much. But they do not think of it in the least. But they seem to be sympathetic towards the people, in a cause which does not improve their habit or living but ruin them ultimately. So this also reveals to us that the Government are not proceeding in the right direction to achieve the declared policy of theirs but are backing up the drink evil to a greater extent and thereby are putting an end to their own declarations. This is a very important matter, Sir, and I am not in the least satisfied with the attitude of Government. This policy of Government deserves acute criticism and also censure. It is a very bad policy, Sir, to adopt and it adds more weight to the unsuitable and undesirable method Government are adopting in going back on their own declarations. So I am obliged to make this strong criticism with a view that the Government may at least hereafter look in the right direction and pave their way to have their declarations fulfilled. I can quote a small instance which will show how Government are interested in promoting the drink evil. There was a toddy shop in our area, Sir, and that was adjoining a weekly market where a good deal of nuisance was committeed by the drunkards. I took up the matter and moved the authorities to see that it was shifted somewhere else. None came to my rescue. Ultimately I got information from Government that they would take up the question only after the Excise Advisory Committee in the area resolve to shift it. Then with very great difficulty I was able to convince the Excise Advisory Committee and it was the only occasion I was able to do it, and it was also resolved with the casting

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vote of myself who presided at that meeting that the said toddy shop should be removed. I am glad to say the Government then removed it. But repeated trials are being made to have a shop again in that area. This is not a thing in the right direction. If the Government are earnest in doing things in a fair way, they must see that these efforts are not at all made. I have given a specific cut motion with regard to this matter, cut motion No. 136 and I wish the Government go into the question and see that shops are not opened in such a way. Another thing, Sir, I wish to point out is this: I know, Sir, that there is a move on the part of the authorities to have some more new shops in Salem district and especially in Sankari Division. Such a proposal has come before the Excise Advisory Committee of the Sankari area of which I also happen to be a member. I have put in a specific resolution, though I cannot carry it, to show to the Government that this sort of opening new shops is against their declared policy and so it should not be undertaken. But in the Advisory Committee as it was constituted, I had no scope of carrying this resolution and as naturally expected of them they said that such new shops might be opened. From this resolution, the Government should not think that the area feels the necessity for this. They will have to think of their own policy and see that no new shops are opened and close down old shops gradually. This year particularly I find great efforts are made in the matter of opening new shops. I have put in interpellations in this matter but the Hon. Minister has replied that he is not aware of these things. He says that the district authorities are doing those things. I should say, that the Minister is ultimately responsible for all these things and he must see that once the policy is laid down the authorities below carry it out in the right spirit and in the right way and check the opening of new shops. Then in the matter of the constitution of the Excise Advisory Committees and Excise Licensing Boards, I have been repeatedly telling the Hon. Minister that it is not functioning in the right direction and it ought to be reorganized on a popular basis. As it is constituted it is almost entirely filled with officials and nominated members with the exception of one or two representatives from the local bodies. Naturally the nominations are so made and the committee is so constituted that it happens often times if one is interested to put forward the popular point of view he does not get a seconder. There is no use of having such advisory committees. Even in such a committee it is a wonder that I was able to carry out the removal resolution, though under peculiar circumstances. Even then, the authorities did not take it in the right spirit and still they are interested in opening the shop in that area. They say illicit sales are going on. If they are to take steps in the right direction, it is not that they have no ways to stop illicit sales except by opening the shops at such centres. By effective supervision they can achieve it. It may be that a few officers may be frank in putting down such illicit sales. But I think, Sir, in very many cases under the very nose of the authorities these illicit sales are going on. They have got powers to put down the illicit sales and they can easily put them down if they have got the

will to do it. It is not very difficult for them. These illicit sales are not put down in the right spirit and so they become somewhat common in certain areas where people are not well educated and Government want to take advantage of it and want to open shops. But there is some solace to think that the people are realizing this drink evil and that is why in some districts we see, Sir, that the departmental authorities find it very hard to find bidders for the liquor shops at the time of sales. Then, Sir, I find it necessary to expose that the Government employ all sorts of methods, I think, with a view to encourage this drinking. Particularly this year I find that the Government have the grouping system of selling these toddy shops and I notice that such a system is being adopted in the Salem town area. There, apart from the shops in the town area, they have grouped about ten shops in the surrounding tract and given about 15 shops in all on contract to a certain individual, to a lesser amount than what all these shops were fetching during the previous year. I have put in an interpellation and there the Government said that there was loss. They admit it. I do not understand why they should adopt this method to incur loss of revenues. When they have decided they should get this revenue, whatever may be the lot of the general public and whatever may be the fate of the poorer class, why should they undergo a loss by adopting this method? I am told that this Government are giving all sort of preferences to this group contractor. If trees are marked for certain shops I am told that the liquor tapped from those trees must be sent to that particular shop only. But in the case of this group contractor they seem to be allowing him to take it to any shop and even to Bangalore from Salem town. I do not know why the Government should encourage these contractors in such a way in spite of the recognized principles and rules in regard to such matters. If we take these factors into consideration, I am led to believe that the Government themselves are interested in promoting this drink evil and are acting against their declared policy of prohibition. It is not too much for me if I say that we should censure the attitude of the Government in this respect. With these few words, I move my cut motion."

* Mr. A. B. SHETTY :—" Sir, I take it that the thinness of the House is an indication of the feeling that no attempt to get the Minister to do anything by way of attaining the goal of prohibition will be of any use."

Mr. G. R. PREMAYYA :—" Sir, the House has no quorum."

(The bell was rung and the quorum was restored.)

* Mr. A. B. SHETTY :—" Sir, this House has more than once passed resolutions in favour of total prohibition. I take it that the Minister stands committed to a policy of attaining prohibition within a period of twenty years as asked for by this House. He has more than once declared on the floor of this House that he will undertake measures of prohibition to the extent that is possible. We shall just

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consider how this policy of attaining prohibition has been pursued by the Government. Several of the experiments that were started in prohibition have been given up one after another; as for instance the rationing experiment in some parts of Vizagapatam, the closure of toddy and arrack shops in some parts of Salem. The other day the answers given to an interpellation of my dear old Friend, Mr. Srinivasan, have served to show how even the closing of shops on Sundays and public holidays has been put a stop to, at least in some places, if not in all places. The only experiments which are now being continued are the closing of arrack shops in two taluks of Tanjore and two taluks of Ramnad and the restriction on the sales of liquor to the hill tribes in the Nilgiris. The forbidding of the sale of liquor to these people is reported to have brought about disquieting results, and the whole matter is now under the investigation of Government. Now, if we look at the latest report of the Excise department, what do we find? We find there how they are going back on the progressive policy followed in the past. The issue strength of arrack which was reduced in certain districts as a temperance measure has again been raised with effect from 1st April 1934. The excise duty on arrack has been reduced hy 25 per cent from April 1935. The report says further that they intend to take steps to increase the licit sources of supply by opening new shops. We find from the budget that even the petty grant of a thousand rupees which was provided for temperance propaganda during the last three years has been deleted this time. What is the attitude of the Excise department towards this policy of prohibition which Government have accepted at the instance of this Council? If you look into the reports year after year from 1931, they tell their own tale. The reports say year after year that such and such an experiment has failed and that it has led to more crime. It does not appear that the Excise department believes at all in the policy of prohibition. It does not miss any opportunity of running down this policy. It has never honestly and seriously given a trial to this policy of prohibition. It wants to throw cold water on these experiments saying that they are failing one after another. Illicit distillation is the great bug-bear of the Excise department. They say that illicit practices have increased; that it may be due to the economic depression; that it is also due to the fact that we have reduced the strength of liquor, that we have reduced the duty on arrack and that we have cut off the sources of supply of liquor by closing down some of the shops. So they want to open new shops. Is it not possible that these increased illicit practices also connote a greater activity on the part of the Excise department? Excise officers are required to detect a certain number of cases; if they do not do it, they are condemned. If there has been increase in crime, it may also be due to greater vigilance and better detection on the part of the Excise department. I hope the Hon. Minister will not contradict me if I say that the Excise department is the most corrupt department under this Government. (The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar: 'No, Sir. Question.') Probably the Hon. Gentleman is shutting his eyes to facts which stare him in the face. Does he not know of the mamuls in this department? Most

of the excise officers get mamuls from every renter and every shop-keeper. The report itself admits that there is systematic dilution in shops and that renters are selling illicit liquor under cover of their licences. The hours fixed for sale are not at all observed. If they give the mamul, they can do anything and everything. The Hon. Minister has said that the first essential step to attain the goal of prohibition is the creation of active public opinion against the evils of drink. In 1929 the Government started a Central Propaganda Board and district propaganda committees. They put an end to it in 1931. That year they allotted a sum of Rs. 8,100 for temperance work. Afterwards it was reduced to a thousand rupees, and the policy of aiding non-official agencies was being followed. But this year, it is strange to say that even this petty sum of a thousand rupees has been cut out of the budget. This is an indication of the way in which the Hon. Minister is carrying out this policy of prohibition to which he says he stands committed. Now, I ask him, what is the policy he has been pursuing in the past and what are the experiments in prohibition which he has tried and what is the policy he intends to follow in future? Let him clearly and unambiguously enunciate the policy he is pursuing. Let that policy be clearly laid down and let him courageously, truthfully and faithfully carry out that policy. Are you intent upon prohibition or are you at least intent upon curtailing the drink evil? Then, try the measures which have been successfully adopted in other countries. A century ago drunkenness was a matter of very common occurrence in England. Some people took it as more or less inevitable. Others who were more serious-minded looked upon it as a deplorable evil and they started a total abstinence movement. As a result partly of this temperance propaganda, we find that a Royal Commission which went into this question in 1932 said that drunkenness had gone out of fashion, and that excessive drinking had decreased to a marked degree. They have not been content with temperance propaganda or moral persuasion; they have taken other effective measures. During the war time, by legislative action to carry out a drink restriction policy they have been able to achieve a great deal. They have disproved the adage that man cannot be made sober by acts of Parliament. What are the measures they took and took with such success? They increased the price of liquor; they reduced its strength; they rationed the supply; they restricted the manufacture in the breweries and the stills; and they limited the hours of sale. Now, if the Hon. Minister is sincere so far as this policy of prohibition is concerned, if he really wants to reduce the drink evil in this country, if he cares to promote the welfare of the people and not merely to safeguard the interests of the Treasury, let him see whether he cannot adopt these measures which have been carried out with success in a country like England from whom we may very well copy the methods so successfully followed."

* Rao Sahib V. I. Muniswami Pillai:—"Mr. President, Sir, it is a matter of great disappointment to see that the Government has not done anything substantial to advance the cause of prohibition in this

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province. Sir, going through the administration report of the Excise department, it is clear that there has been a fall in consumption and also in revenue. But when we see all round, we find that the movement of prohibition has not been established either in the urban areas or in the rural areas. Sir, it has been said that the goal is total prohibition in twenty years. We have been discussing the matter in this House for the last so many years. But we could not find even one single district or taluk dry. As already pointed out by my hon. Friends, Messrs. Shetty and Nachiyappa Gounder, efforts were made here and there in some taluks to try the prohibition experiment. But I find from the reports that the Government say that it was not a success. One has to ask whether the failure in those taluks is due to the fact that people cannot give up drink or whether it is due to the slackness on the part of the Government to encourage prohibition. Sir, going thoroughly into the matter, I think the efforts of the Government are not so promising as to bring prohibition into this country within a measurable distance of time. Taking my own district of the Nilgiris, a few years back it was fortunate enough to get partial prohibition, and that partial prohibition was only confined to a certain section of the people known as the hill-tribes. In the early stages of the scheme, it was working so well that I know most of the families in the hill parts became total abstainers and their economic condition was very much advanced. But now, Sir, due to the slackness on the part of the department it is all the other way. We have already pointed out to the Hon. the Minister that unless possession of liquor is made a penal offence the scheme of prohibition will not work there. I do not think, Sir, that efforts have been made to bring into effect the
0 a. rule that possession is illegal. Moreover, Sir, I do not find that the excise officials in that district are vigilant enough to carry out the instructions of the Government. When the Temperance Propaganda Committee was abolished the Hon. the Minister said that agencies that were working for the temperance cause would be subsidized and every encouragement would be given to them. But I find in the current year's budget there is no provision for any such cause. It is sad to find in the last Excise Administration Report that no temperance work of any importance was carried out by the temperance associations. If the Hon. Minister will only call for records from the Director of Public Instruction who has been doling out subsidies to the various associations that are carrying on propaganda work, he will find that there exists in this country a very big international temperance association backed by various associations, such as, The Servants of India Society and Hindu Good Templars Association in the City of Madras. I do not know whether at any time the Hon. Minister or the Government attempted to bring together these associations to find out how far and how successfully efforts could be made to make prohibition a real thing in this land. I may request the Hon. the Minister at least to try it during the course of this year and find out ways and means to bring about prohibition. As already pointed out by my friend, Mr. Shetty, a resolution was passed in this House to close all the arrack shops during Sundays and festive days, but I fear that resolution though it was given effect to in the earlier stages

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was allowed to remain a pious hope and shops were allowed to be kept open during Sundays and other festive days. I may instance here the recent activities that are going on in the Indian State of Hyderabad where the Government has come forward with a substantial contribution to carry on propaganda work, and also invited subscriptions from public to put a stop to this drink habit.

" Sir, in a major province like this, having a big population whose economic condition is very bad, I dare say it must be the duty of the Hon. Minister to see that something substantial is done to elevate the condition of the poor labourer. In whatever walk of life he may be, we find that a certain portion of his income goes to the drink shop. This is not only so among poor labourers but also among illiterate people. Sir, at a time when the Hon. the Minister is making all efforts to bring about a better state of literacy in this Province I am sorry to find that he has not given that amount of interest to this important temperance question. I would point out to him that unless he takes a sterner-step to see that something substantial is done in this direction, the condition of the poorer classes will become much worse. I would earnestly appeal to the Hon. the Minister to make even possession of liquor illegal and take such steps as are necessary to attain the goal of prohibition."

* Khan Bahadur MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB Bahadur:—" Sir, prohibition is said to be the goal which Government is trying to attain. But, Sir, Government perhaps did not know what all means have to be employed to reach that goal. Judging from the results I do not think much has been achieved. The previous speaker said that public opinion must be created in order to attain prohibition. He also pointed out that in 1934 Government sanctioned some money and non-official agencies were appointed for propaganda work, that in the subsequent year it was reduced to Rs. 1,000 and this year even that has been omitted. I may say and the Members of the House know how that money was altogether misapplied and no benefit was derived from it. This year that provision has been rightly omitted. (Interruption.) My friend says that it has been used for election purposes. I don't know how far it is true. I can say the money was not utilized for the purpose for which it was intended. I agree that public opinion is necessary to put an end to this evil of drink more than any legislation. But how to create that public opinion? Public opinion is created by the press condemning drinking, etc., and respectable leaders abstaining from it. I see, Sir, that so many of our leaders who come and advocate prohibition are themselves addicted to this habit. (Interruption.) I can challenge them—let them deny; they preach prohibition and advise people not to touch liquor at all, but they themselves do not practise it. Ministers and Members of Government should abstain from it before they ask others to abstain. Let them set an example first. Respectable leaders and high officials must abstain from drinking first.

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"Then the leading presses must take up the question and agitate over it. It may be asked what the alternative source of revenue to Government is. As several hon. Members have suggested the people are not able to bear any further burdens. So the only way is by retrenching the staff and by cutting the expenditure on it. It was suggested several times before that many intermediary offices might be abolished in several departments which are top-heavy. There is another way which, I have also suggested before, by which retrenchment can be effected, that is, by entrusting the work of this department to the Police department. Instead of having such a large establishment for preventing illicit distillation, and other things, the Police department might be made to undertake this work; a great deal of money can be saved thereby. That will bring about prohibition. Of course, as I said last year it cannot be stopped all on a sudden by legislation. We must see to the practical side of it. I can tell you, Sir, in most of the Muslim countries, such as, Persia, Afghanistan, Arabia and Iraq there is no drinking at all, although the missionaries and European merchants have taken with them the whisky bottle to places which they have penetrated. These countries are still free from this evil in spite of so many attempts to induce them. It is due to the injunction and preaching of the Holy Prophet of Arabia. How did he proceed and how did he succeed? He first said to his disciples that liquor should not be taken during prayers. Then some time after that, he saw that the people had adopted that. Then he said 'You should not take drink during day-time.' So it went on for some time. Then after people had become accustomed to that he told them not to touch liquor at all. Afterwards they did not drink at all. This is the way to bring about prohibition, i.e., by gradual means. With these words, I support the motion."

Diwan Bahadur M. Gopalaswami Mudaliyar:—"Sir, I am afraid that judging by the results, so far as the Excise department is concerned, I don't think they have achieved much. I am very sorry I cannot help giving expression to the feeling that is prevalent in the country that so far as this portfolio is concerned the Hon. the Minister in charge has not been true to the pledges he had made on the floor of this House. It may be possible that he has not been able to do much on account of circumstances over which he has no control. But the people at large do not generally understand it in that way. I will just give one instance as to how we can proceed. Where is the difficulty in trying to see that the foreign liquor is prohibited from being imported, at any rate so far as this province is concerned? I think if this first step is taken, it will be a good advance made. My friend was very blunt rather when he said that Ministers and leaders must abstain from drink. I do not want to pursue that matter. It is to say the least, rather very uninteresting.

"While on this question I wish to suggest a small change in connexion with the granting of licences. It is a pernicious system to grant the licence every year to the same set of individuals. It may be asked, how it affects the excise policy. To that I say that supposing

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a licensee is in a place for a number of years, he would gradually gather around him a number of persons to help him in order to see that there is more consumption in that area. In that way I think he would be a hindrance to the policy of the Government. I hope this suggestion will be borne in mind by the Hon. Minister.

"Another thing I want to say in this connexion is that so far as my district is concerned, it is in some respects akin to the Nilgiris. There are many criminal tribes in my district also; there are several people belonging to these tribes. They are known as Lambadis. They are addicted to drink. In my neighbouring districts also there are classes of people like that. For generations they have been accustomed to this vice and they would not leave it off easily. In their case I think if prohibition is introduced it will be very good and they will be benefited. They will then lead a more respectable life and abstain from crimes and their neighbours also will have peace. It will be a very good policy to introduce prohibition there.

"Then there is the question of illicit manufacture of alcoholic drinks. Some sort of liquor is manufactured by them locally. I personally know some places where liquor with high alcoholic content is manufactured illicitly. The Excise department should put down that sort of distillation and assist not only those who so manufacture it but also the people of the neighbouring areas."

* Mrs. K. ALAMELUMANGATHAYARAMMA (spoke in Tamil and the following is an English of the speech:—"Mr. Deputy President, the previous speakers have pointed out the evils of drink and the Government also have recognized that. My experience has been that murders and other crimes are committed by people under the influence of drink and it is to combat these evils that Government have introduced a propaganda to rid the country of this evil. They did not stop there. They appointed also propagandists to point out to the people the evils of drink. But they discontinued that arrangement on account of the many adverse criticisms made. I submit that it is wrong to think that such propaganda would result in any immediate good. As the drinking habit of certain classes of people is a deep-seated one, any propaganda will bear fruit only in the long run. We see that consumption is on the decrease and at the sales, only a lower amount has been offered by the contractors. Clearly our propaganda has not borne fruit at once. But we should not be discouraged. In countries like America they carried on propaganda against drink for over 50 years and still they are carrying on propaganda. We should also therefore continue our efforts at persuading our people not to resort to drink. They should be told that drink is bad for their health and for the health of their children. Not only liquor but also such drugs as opium and ganja are injurious to health. We should take effective steps in this direction. In the text-books for schools we should introduce lessons showing the evils of drink and how liquors are bad and injurious to the health. It is understood that in England for medicinal purposes also some substitutes for liquors such as brandy and so on are being used. In our country it is a fact that our illiterate brethren spend

a major part of their earnings on drink and only a small fraction of it on their food and clothing. That is why we see in many localities in this city itself large numhers of people homeless, mostly reduced to poverty by the drink habit. It is our duty to teach these people healthy habits and hygienic living.

" I find from the administration report that the quantity of foreign liquor consumed has increased. I believe we should take some steps to discourage this trade, and so I suggest that the Government should enhance the duty imposed on foreign liquors such as gin, brandy, etc. If that were done, it would do a lot of good to the unthinking people who take them. For any reform in this direction, we should secure the help of teachers. They can do a great deal by inculcating in the minds of their pupils the evils of drink and other intoxicating drugs. Text-books, as I suggested, should include moral lessons concerning the unhappiness and misery introduced in their homes by people who are subject to the drinking habit so that, the boys when they grow to manhood might detest drink. A few days ago there were murders committed in front of toddy shops and they are being investigated by the police. At least it is necessary that no toddy shops should be located in the midst of dwelling houses. Drink could also be discouraged by reducing the number of shops. At least in future the shops should not be opened. I appeal to the communities concerned to work to this end. As I said, the Excise department should also work for reducing the drink evil."

The House then adjourned to meet again at 11 a.m. the next day.

D. K. V. RAGHAVA VARMA,
Acting Secretary to the Legislative Council.

APPENDIX I.

[Vide answer to question No. 923 asked by Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 13th March 1936, page 186 supra.]

Statement showing the number of prosecutions under the Indian Motor Vehicles Act and the Madras Motor Vehicles Rules, 1923, *launched in the South Kanara district in respect of each month of the year* 1935.

Month.	Number of prosecutions against drivers of Buses.	Number of prosecutions against drivers of Motor vehicles plying for hire other than buses.	Number of such cases personally detected and prosecuted by the District Magistrate himself.	Number of such cases which ended in conviction.	Number of persons convicted in each of such cases.	Number of such cases in which the fine imposed exceeded Rs. 25.	Number of such cases in which sentences other than fine were imposed.	Nature of such sentences.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
January	6	19	..	14	14	..	..	..
February	17	34	..	28	29	1	..	..
March	9	15	1	18	21	2	..	..
April	2	12	..	12	12	2	..	..
May	7	8	..	13	14	1	..	..
June	2	19	..	18	19	1	..	..
July	8	19	..	15	14	..	..	..
August	6	2	..	4	4	..	..	..
September	1	8	..	4	5	..	..	..
October	1	3	..	3	3	..	..	..
November	8	5	1	11	11	..	1	Suspension of licence for two months.
December	12	22	7	31	32	4	3	Do.
Total ..	79	166	* 9	171	178	11	4	

* This does not include the cases of four motor lorries who were formally warned by the District Magistrate. In all these cases complaints were sent to different courts; no case was tried by the District Magistrate.

APPENDIX II.

[Vide answer to question No. 937 asked by Mr. S. M. K. Beyabani Sahib Bahadur at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 13th March 1936, page 196 supra.]

Name of district board where election was held of late.	Total number of seats.	Number of seats reserved for Muslims.	Number of Muslims elected.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Chittoor	48	2	2
West Godavari	42	1	1
Bellary	48	3	3
Anantapur	52	3	4
Kurnool	52	4	4
Tinnevelly	52	3	5
Trichinopoly	52	1	1
South Kanara	44	3	4
Cuddapah	45	4	4
South Arcot	52	2	2
Guntur	32	1	1
Ongole	32	2	2

APPENDIX III.

[*Vide* answer to question No. 938 asked by Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 13th March 1936, pages 197–198 supra.]

(1)

G.O. Ms. No. 3798, L. & M., dated 17th September 1935.

READ—the following papers:—

From certain members of the District Board, East Godavari.

From the President of the East Godavari District Board, dated 3rd August 1935, No. 681/D.B.

From the President of the East Godavari District Board, dated 19th August 1935, No. 681/D.B.

From the Collector of East Gadavari, dated 31st August 1935, D. Dis. No. 3412.

Order—Ms. No. 3798, *L. & M., dated 17th September* 1935.

The Government regret that they are unable to approve the proposal of the East Godavari District Board to purchase in court auction the 'Alluri' buildings at Razole for purposes of a travellers' bungalow.

(By order of the Government, Ministry of Local Self-Government)

K. NARAYANA AYYAR,
Assistant Secretary to Government.

To the President of the East Godavari District Board.
,, Collector of East Godavari.
Copy to Mr. Kala Venkata Rao, District Board Member, Amalapuram.

(2)

G.O. Ms. No. 4837, L. & M., dated 22nd November 1935.

READ—the following paper:—

From the President of the East Godavari District Board, dated 1st November 1935, No. 681/34.

Order—Ms. No. 4837, *L. & M., dated 22nd November* 1935.

In G.O. No. 3798, L. & M., dated the 17th September 1935, the Government refused to accept the proposal of the East Godavari District Board to purchase in court auction the 'Alluri' buildings at Razole for purposes of a travellers' bungalow. The President, District Board, requests that the order may be reconsidered.

2. The Government have fully examined the question again but they consider that it is not advisable for the Board to purchase the said buildings at a court auction. If the district board considers it essential to acquire the buildings it may take necessary steps to acquire them under the provision of the Land Acquisition Act, 1894.

(By order of the Government, Ministry of Local Self-Government)

T. B. RUSSELL,
Secretary to Government.

To the President of the East Godavari District Board.
,, Collector of East Godavari.

(3)

Letter from the President of the East Godavari District Board, dated 1st November 1935, *No. Ref. B*-1-681/*D.B. of* 1934.

[Buildings—Travellers' bungalow—East Godavari District Board—Alluri buildings at Razole—Purchase in court sale—Government Orders—Reconsideration—Requested.]

Adverting to G.O. Ms. No. 3798, L. & M., dated the 17th September 1935, I have the honour to state that the district board after nature consideration decided to purchase the said building in the court sale for the purpose of a travellers' bungalow which is recognized both by the District Board Engineer and the district board to be a long felt want at the place and that in such circumstances the orders of the Government in not accepting the proposal of the district board are quite disappointing inasmuch as the non-purchase of the building, is prejudicial to the best interests of the Board. I have fully discussed the various aspects of the question in my office letter No. Ref. Pet. B-1-681/D.B. of 1934, dated the 4th August 1935 and 19th August 1935, and fully explained the circumstances which necessitated the purchase of the building in the court sale for a rest-house. As the Government have not accepted the proposals of the Board and as I honestly feel the imperative need for the purchase of the building in the best interests of the Board, I make this reference again for reconsideration of the previous orders of the Government.

2. To deal with the question at length here again will be only reiterating what I already reported. Hence I shall now touch the salient points of the question just to make clear the necessity for the purchase of the building. I have already reported that the District Board School at Razole has been located in the Alluri building ever since its construction and the Board has been paying a rent of Rs. 75 per mensem all these years. The middle school classes are separately located in some other buildings which are in a dilapidated condition and which are also condemned by the Inspecting Officers and it is high time for the school to be shifted from these buildings. The Board

has been paying a rent of Rs. 105 per mensem for these other buildings. On the whole the Board has thus been paying a rent of Rs. 180 (Rs. 75 + Rs. 105) per mensem for all the buildings. It is no exaggeration to say that there is no other proper building available at the place for the locating of the high school. Whether the educational authorities certify to the suitability of the building or not, it is a matter of dire necessity to continue the school in it till it constructs a building of its own. I am sure that the construction of a new building would take at least six or seven years as the selection and acquisition of the site itself would take much time in view of the dearth of suitable sites at the place. During this period of seven years, the Board has to pay a total rent of about Rs. 15,000 (Rs. 180 × 12 × 7). If the upstair building is now purchased, tiled sheds as suggested by the District Board Engineer can be constructed at a cost of about Rs. 4,000 in the adjoining site of 50 cents proposed to be acquired for elementary school building for boys and all the classes can be shifted into these sheds very conveniently. Thus the purchase of the building would save an expenditure of about Rs. 15,000 merely under rent and provide full accommodation at one place for all the classes at an additional expense of about Rs. 4,000 only for constructing tiled sheds.

3. After the new school building is constructed the tiled sheds can be conveniently utilized for the elementary school and the upstair building for a rest-house. Thus this transaction serves double purpose. It affords continuance of the school till a new building is constructed and secondly it provides for a permanent decent rest-house consisting of good site with tiled sheds at an additional cost of about Rs. 4,000. Thus on any consideration, the purchase of the building is profitable concern for the Board especially from the economic point of view.

4. Next comes the question as to how the property is to be secured—whether it should be purchased in court sale or it be acquired under Land Acquisition Act. As I already stated it would take a long time to acquire the same under the Act and this procedure frustrates the very object of the Board to attend to the immediate needs of the locality.

By taking the converse side of the question, it is quite obvious that the Board will be driven to the undesirable necessity of closing the school in case the purchaser does not let it out or of paying exorbitantly high rent that might be demanded under the peculiar circumstances. Mr. B. Subbarao, District Board Member, who suggested to acquire the building under the Land Acquisition Act, did so only with the impression that acquisition under the Act leaves no doubt regarding the title and that court sale does not prove full and complete title. But as against this, we have the expert opinion of the Government Pleader and Public Prosecutor in the matter, who made this point clear and the Board as per his opinion gets full title to the property free of all encumbrances if purchased in court sale. Such being the case the Board was quite justified in proposing to purchase the building in court sale.

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Under the circumstances mentioned in the foregone paragraphs I request that the Government may be pleased to reconsider their previous orders on the subject and accord their sanction for the purchase of the building in the court sale at a cost not exceeding Rs. 15,000 as resolved by the Board in view of the fact that the Board has to face a very serious situation of closing the school.

Early orders are solicited as the court sale is to come off very shortly.

APPENDIX IV.

[Vide answer to question No. 939 asked by Sriman M. G. Patnaik Mahasayo at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 13th March 1936, page 198 supra.]

Statement showing the mileage of first and second-class roads in Chicacole, Chatrapur, Ghumsur and Berhampur divisions and the amounts sanctioned during 1933–34 *and* 1934–35 *for their maintenance.*

Name of division.	Mileage of Trunk road.		Mileage of Second-class roads.		Amount sanctioned for Trunk road.		Amount sanctioned for Second-class roads.	
					1933–34.	1934–35.	1933–34.	1934–35.
	M.		M.	F.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
Chicacole	64	..	271	3	36,520	36,520	88,009	88,009
Berhampur	38	..	87	..	21,690	21,690	26,642	26,642
Chatrapur	33	..	91	..	18,830	18,830	27,890	27,890
Ghumsur	..	..	188	7	..	..	73,350	73,350
Total ..	135	..	638	2	77,040	77,040	2,15,891	2,15,891

APPENDIX V.

[Vide answer to question No. 941 asked by Mr. G. Rameswara Rao at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 13th March 1936, page 200 supra.]

G.O. No. 621, L. & M., dated 15th February 1936.

READ—the following papers:—

G.O. No. 3395, L. & M., dated 20th August 1935.

G.O. No. 3639, L. & M., dated 7th September 1935.

Memorials from Pandits.

From the President of the Kistna District Board, dated 27th October 1935, No. 440-G/34.

From the Commissioner, Gudiyattam Municipal Council, dated 8th October 1935, No. 1715/34.

From the Director of Public Instruction, dated 4th December 1935, No. 2148-G/35.

Order—No. 621, *L. & M., dated* 15*th February* 1936.

In the Government Orders read above the Government fixed the scales of pay for pandits in secondary schools under local bodies with reference to their qualifications. Questions have since been raised as

to the pay admissible to pandits who do not possess the prescribed qualifications but were entertained prior to the issue of G.O. Ms. No. 888, Law (Education), dated 17th May 1926, in which qualifications for pandits were laid down for the first time and who were allowed to continue in service after that date under the Director of Public Instruction's Proceedings No. 1064/27, dated 12th March 1927.

2. The intention in granting the unqualified pandits who were appointed before 1st July 1926 a general exemption from possessing the qualifications was that they should not be thrown out of employment by managements of secondary schools. The request of the memorialists that they should be classified with the title-holders for purposes of pay and be allowed the scale of Rs. 45—2/2—75 on the ground that they were granted a general exemption in 1926 cannot therefore be complied with.

3. The Government direct that the pandits who do not possess the prescribed qualifications but were appointed prior to 1st July 1926 should be granted the lower scale, viz., Rs. 30—2/2—50 intended for holders of certificates of proficiency. In cases where there is real hardship by the application of this scale, the Government will be prepared to consider on the recommendation of the local body concerned the question of the grant of personal pay as stated in G.O. No. 5025, L. & M., dated 20th November 1934.

(By order of the Government, Ministry of Local Self-Government)

T. B. Russell,
Secretary to Government.

To all *Presidents of District Boards.*
,, all Executive Authorities of Municipal Councils (through Chairmen).
,, all Collectors.
,, the Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards.
,, the Examiner of Local Fund Accounts.
,, the Director of Public Instruction.
,, the Law (Education) Department.

THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF THE GOVERNOR OF MADRAS.

Saturday, the 14th March 1936.

The House met at eleven of the clock, Mr. President (the Hon. Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI) in the Chair.

PRESENT :

Reddi Nayudu, *Kt.*, The Hon. Rai Bahadur Sir K. V.
Pannirselvam, The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T.
Bracken, C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S., The Hon. Mr. G. T. H.
Raja of Bobbili, K.C.I.E., The Hon. the.
Rajan, The Hon. Mr. P. T.
Kumaraswami Reddiyar, The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S.
Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur.
Ahmed Meeran Sahib Bahadur.
Alagannan Chettiyar, Rao Sahib A. S.
Alamelumangathayaramma, Mrs. K.
Appadurai Pillai, Diwan Bahadur A.
Arasu, Mr. V. T.
Basheer Ahmed Sayeed Sahib Bahadur.
Basu Dev, Mr. C.
Beyabani Sahib Bahadur, S. M. K.
Boag, C.I.E., I.C.S., Mr. G. T.
Devadasan, Mr. M.
Dharmalingam Pillai, Rao Sahib V.
Foulkes, Mr. G. F. F.
Gopalaswami Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur M.
Halasyam Ayyar, Mr. N.
Harischandrudu Nayudu, Mr. A.
Iswaran Pillai, Mr. I. C.
Jagannatham, Mr. H. M.
Jones, I.C.S., Mr. C. E.
Kesavaramamurti Nayudu, Mr. K.
Khalif-ul-lah Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur P.
Koti Reddi, Mr. K.
Krishnayya Choudari, Mr. P. V.
Krishnamurti, Rao Bahadur D.
Kumararaja of Venkatagiri, The.
Madanagopal Nayudu, Mr. R.
Maharaja of Parlakimedi, The.
Mahboob Ali Baig Sahib Bahadur.
Manikkavelu Nayakar, Mr. M. A.
Moidoo Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur T. M.
Moses, Mr. P. C.
Muhammad Meera Ravuttar Bahadur, K. P. V. S.
Muniswami Pillai, Rao Sahib V. I.
Nachiyappa Gounder, Mr. K. A.
Nadimuthu Pillai, Mr. A. Pl. N. V.
Nanjappa Bahadur, Rao Bahadur Subadar-Major S. A.
Narasa Reddi, Mr. T.
Narayanan Nambiyar, Mr. V. P.
Natesa Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur C.
Obi Reddi, Mr. C.
Palat, Mr. R. M.
Patnaik Mahasayo, Sriman M. G.
Patro, K.C.I.E., Rao Bahadur Sir A. P.
Pocker Sahib Bahadur, B.
Premayya, Mr. G. R.
Rajagopala Pillai, Mr. P. V.
Ramachandra Padayachi, Mr. P. K.
Ramakrishna Reddi, Mr. A.
Ramalingam Chettiyar, Diwan Bahadur T. A.
Ramalinga Reddi, Mr. C.
Ramamurti, Rao Sahib Pandit Ganala.
Raman Menon, Mr. K. P.
Ramaswami Ayyar, Mr. T. S.
Ramaswami Mudaliyar, Mr. V. M.
Rameswara Rao, Mr. G.
Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. A.
Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. G.
Ranganatham, Mr. N.
Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur C. S.
Ratnavelu Thevar, Mr. P.
Reid, Mr. D. M.
Rukmani Lakshmipathi, Mrs. A.
Russell, I.C.S., Mr. T. B.
Sandana Gounder, Mr. I.
Schamnad Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur Mahmud.
Scott Brown, I.C.S., Mr. W.
Shetty, Mr. A. B.
Simhachalam Pantulu, Mr. G.
Siva Raj, Rao Sahib N.
Smith, Mr. J. M.
Soundara Pandian, Mr. W. P. A.
Sreshta, Mr. M. S.
Srinivasan, Diwan Bahadur R.
Sriramulu, Mr. G.
Subbarayan, Dr. P.
Subrahmanya Bhatt, Mr. U. C.
Sundara Rao Nayudu, Mr. T.
Syed Tajuddin Sahib Bahadur, Khan Sahib.
Thangal, Mr. P. M.
Thomas, Mr. Daniel.
Uzielli, C.I.E., I.C.S., Mr. H. R.
Vasudeva Pillai, Mr. V. G.
Vedachala Mudaliyar, Rao Sahib M.
Venugopal Nayudu, Rao Bahadur R. K.
Wright, *Kt.*, Sir William.
Yahya Ali Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur.
Yakub Hasan Sahib Bahadur.
Zamindar of Bodinayakkanur, The.
Zamindar of Kirlampudi, The.
Zamindar of Mirzapuram, The.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS

Medical Administration

Selection of candidates by the Madras Services Commission for the Madras Medical Service (Women's Branch).

* 944 *Q.*—Diwan Bahadur A. Appadurai Pillai: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there was any proposal from the Madras Services Commission last year for the recruitment of qualified candidates to the Madras Medical Service (Women's Branch); if so, on what date was such proposal made;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that applications from candidates were invited only in June 1935;

(*c*) if so, what this delay was due to;

(*d*) whether it is a fact that applications were originally invited only from members of the Non-Brahman, Muhammadan, Anglo-Indian, Indian Christian or Non-Asiatic communities;

(*e*) whether this invitation was subsequently modified to include members of other communities and, if so, on what grounds;

(*f*) whether it is a fact that the note appearing under paragraph 3 (*f*) (*i*) of the Madras Services Commission Notification, dated 8th June 1935, was a later addition, and if so, what circumstances rendered such addition necessary;

(*g*) why the period of service as Sub-Assistant Surgeon, House Surgeon, etc., for not less than twelve months, fixed in clause (*f*) (*i*) was cut down to nine months by the abovesaid note and how this particular period, nine months, came to be fixed;

(*h*) how many candidates belonging to the communities mentioned in clause (*d*) above were admitted to the examination, how many of these had less than twelve months' service as House Surgeons, etc., on 11th July 1935 and what the actual period served was by each of them and the community they belonged to; and

(*i*) how many candidates have been selected for appointment as a result of the examination and to what communities and nationalities do they belong?

A.—(*a*) No; in March 1935, the Government requested the Commission to select candidates.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) Statutory service rules in respect of two of the posts were issued by the Government on 22nd May 1935 and this accounted for the delay.

(*d*) Yes.

(*e*) No; in the notification published in the *Fort St. George Gazette* (Part I-B), dated 11th June 1935, the Madras Services Commission first invited applications from women belonging to the Non-Brahman (Hindus), the Muhammadan and the Anglo-Indian, Christian or non-Asiatic communities, and subsequently in their notification of 12th July 1935 they invited applications in respect of a fresh vacancy from the Brahman community which was next in order of communal rotation. The Commission selected four caudidates, two of whom were Brahmans and the other two Christians. As no applications were received from the Non-Brahman and Muhammadan communities two vacancies were given, one each to the Christian and the Brahman communities in the order of communal rotation. As for the other two vacancies it was considered desirable to call for fresh applications from the Non-Brahman and Muhammadan communities and also from the scheduled classes. This the Madras Services Commissiou have done in their notification, dated 24th December 1935.

(*f*) No.

(*g*) The note under paragraph 3 (*f*) (i) of the notification referred to is in accordance with the proviso to sub-clause (1) of clause (i) of sub-rule (*b*) of rule 5 of the Statutory Rules relating to the Madras Medical Service (General Branch). The object of the note permitting also the candidates who have served as Sub-Assistant Surgeon, House Surgeon, House Physician or Clinical Assistant in a hospital for a period of not less than nine months, to submit applications, was that by the date they were actually selected for admission to the service they might be able to put in the remaining three months' service to make up the total period of twelve months. It is clearly stated in the said Note that such candidates, if selected, will not be eligible for appointment, unless before the date of such appointment they have completed the total service of twelve months.

(*h*) Only four Christians with reference to the notification of 11th June 1935 were qualified and were admitted to the competitive examination. The actual period served by them as House Surgeons, etc., was, respectively,

(1) one year,

(2) one year five months,

(3) one year three months, and

(4) nine months.

(*i*) Two Christians and two Brahmans were selected on the results of the competitive examination

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Mr. V. T. Arasu :—" May I know from the Hon. Minister whether it is a fact that the two Christian candidates that were selected belong to the Indian States and not to British India? "

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar :—" I think they are naturalized British subjects."

Mr. V. T. Arasu :—" May I know whether they have resided for ten years in British India to qualify them to become naturalized British subjects? "

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar :—" It must be so."

Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari :—" May I know whether the lady doctors that were posted to Telugu districts do not know the vernacular of the districts, i.e., Telugu? "

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar :—" I do not know how that question arises out of this."

Public Works

Proposal for the appointment of Mr. Dann as the Chief Consulting Architect to Government.

* 945 *Q.*—Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the term of the appointment of Mr. Dann as Town-Planning Officer and Consulting Architect to the Government expired; if so, when it expired;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that there were proposals before the Government to continue him as the Chief Consulting Architect for a further period; if so, on what salary and what the special reasons are, if any, urged for his continuance;

(*c*) what the qualifications and the training and experience are which Mr. Dann has for the special appointment; and

(*d*) what the scale of pay is of the Chief Consulting Architect to the Government of Madras?

A.—(*a*) Yes; on 6th December 1935, but pending a decision on the terms of his new appointment he has been allowed to continue on the terms of the agreement which has expired.

(*b*) It has been decided to employ him from the 15th March 1936, till he attains the age of 55 on 30th January 1938, as Special Architect in connexion with important building works which the Government have on hand and will shortly undertake. His salary will be Rs. 2,200 per *mensem. He will be relieved of the ordinary duties of* the Consulting Architect which will be performed by the

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Assistant Consulting Architect officiating as Consulting Architect. In effect, the work now performed by Mr. Dann as Consulting Architect and by his assistant will in future be attended to by the same two officers as Special Architect and officiating Consulting Architect respectively.

(*c*) He is a Fellow of the R.I.B.A. and has had considerable experience of architectural work.

(*d*) Rupees 700—100/2—1,000 per mensem.

Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar:—" May I ask in view of the scale of pay that has been fixed for the appointment of Chief Consulting Architect, why it is necessary to raise the pay of Mr. Dann to Rs. 2,200? Is it in order to suit the person whom the Government want to appoint? "

The Hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan:—" Not at all. As the answer says, it has been decided to employ him for two years more and we cannot pay him anything less than Rs. 2,200."

Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar:—" May I ask whether, in view of the fact that the scale of pay is from Rs. 700 to Rs. 1,000, we cannot get a suitable officer appointed within the sanctioned scale of pay? "

The Hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan:—" It is not possible to get a man within that scale. As an experiment we are trying the Assistant Consulting Architect who will officiate as Consulting Architect."

Mr. V. T. Arasu:—" Will the Hon. Minister say in which year Mr. Dann was admitted as a fellow of the R.I.B.A.? "

The Hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan:—" I cannot say off-hand."

Mr. V. T. Arasu:—" May I know whether it is a fact that Mr. Dann applied only about three years ago for admission as a Fellow of the R.I.B.A., and in that application he stated that he had acted as the Consulting Architect of the Madras Government? Is the Hon. Minister aware that that was one of the main considerations which impelled the R.I.B.A. to admit him as a Fellow of that Institute? "

The Hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan:—" The Government have no information."

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed:—" May I know whether this person combines both the duties of the Town-Planning Officer as well as the Consulting Architect and that is why his salary is fixed at Rs. 2,000 now? "

The Hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan:—" Previously Mr. Dann was acting in both the capacities; now he is in sole charge of Special Architect's work."

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Veterinary.

Prevalence of diseases among cattle in Cumbum taluk, Kurnool.

* 946 *Q.*—S. M. K. Beyabani Sahib Bahadur: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that rinderpest and other diseases of the animals are prevalent in the Cumbum taluk continuously for the past five or six years;

(*b*) what special steps have been taken to check the same; and

(*c*) whether any additional veterinary doctor has been posted to this taluk?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) & (*c*) A touring veterinary assistant surgeon has been stationed at Giddalore since 1934 to attend to veterinary work in the Cumbum taluk. A large number of cattle in the Cumbum taluk have been protected as a precaution against anticipated outbreaks of rinderpest in future. Propaganda work amongst ryots has also recently been conducted by a special Veterinary Assistant Surgeon deputed for the purpose with the department motor exhibition van. In addition, a special Veterinary Assistant Surgeon has been deputed to the Nallamalais of Kurnool and Cuddapah districts to inspect the cattle pentas in the area with special reference to the contagious diseases prevailing there. He has been directed to investigate the reasons for high cattle mortality in the Cumbum taluk.

S. M. K. Beyabani Sahib Bahadur:—"May I know whether sufficient serum has been supplied to carry on the work efficiently in this particular area?"

The Hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan:—"I presume that everything possible has been done."

Local Self-Government

Grants disbursed by the Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards for rural communications and water-supply during the quinquennium 1930–35.

* 947 *Q.*—Mr. M. B. Rangaswami Reddi: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) the amount of grant placed at the disposal of the Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards (1) for the improvement of village communications and (2) for the improvement of water-supply sources for the years 1930–31, 1931–32, 1932–33, 1933–34 and 1934–35;

(*b*) the amount spent by him for the above years (districtwar figures may be supplied); and

(*c*) if the entire amount had not been spent, the reasons for the same in each case?

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A.—(*a*)

Year.	Grant placed at the disposal of the Inspector.
(1) *Village communications.*	RS.
1930–31	2,05,000
1931–32	1,50,000
1932–33	2,50,000
1933–34	2,50,000
1934–35	No grant was placed at the Inspector's disposal.
(2) *Water-supply works.*	
1930–31	1,50,000
1931–32	1,00,000
1932–33	1,10,000
1933–34	1,25,000
1934–35	50,000

(*b*) & (*c*) A statement[a] furnishing the required information is laid on the table.

Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar :—" May I know why no grant was placed at the disposal of the Inspector of Local Boards and Municipal Councils in respect of village communications for the year 1934–35 and why the grant in respect of water-supply has been reduced to Rs. 50,000 in the same year? "

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili :—" The amount available for distribution to municipalities and local boards including panchayats in 1934–35 was so small that the Government themselves distributed the amount directly to the district boards. As regards the second question, because in that year the budgeted allotment was very low, the amount placed at the disposal of the Inspector of Local Boards and Municipal Councils for water-supply was also very low."

Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar :—" May I ask whether, in view of the fact that the village development fund that was being administered by local bodies has been abolished, it is not necessary to place a larger amount at the disposal of the Inspector of Local Boards in order to develop the amenities in the villages? "

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili :—" If the village development fund is abolished, there is no bar to the usual amount being spent on the purpose for which the development fund was originally constituted."

Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar :—" Do the Government realize the necessity and desirability of increasing the grants as far as possible? "

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili :—" My hon. Friend will see from the answer that there has been an increase."

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[a] Printed as Appendix I on page 313 infra.

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—"May I know whether grants are given for the purpose of maintaining the village roads that are opened year after year?"

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"These grants are intended for new works."

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—"May I ask on what principle the amount of grant is distributed among the institutions in various districts? It refers to the amount placed at the disposal of the Inspector of Local Boards and does not say anything more."

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"These are earmarked for distribution to panchayat boards."

Reforms

Construction of a new building for the Provincial Legislative Assembly.

* 948 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the Hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there are any proposals for constructing a new building for housing the new Provincial Legislative Assembly;

(*b*) if so, what they are;

(*c*) whether the site for it has been selected, and if so, where it is;

(*d*) what is the total estimated cost of the whole buildings to be constructed in this behalf; and

(*e*) when the construction is likely to be taken up and finished?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) There is a proposal under consideration to construct a suitable building for accommodating the two Chambers of the Madras Legislature under the new constitution.

(*c*) The site for the new building has not been finally decided on.

(*d*) Plans and estimates for the new building have not been prepared yet.

(*e*) The construction will be taken up as soon as possible after the site is chosen and the plans and estimates are ready.

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—"May I ask whether this Government have approached the Government of India to place at the disposal of this Government for housing the Provincial Legislative Assembly that portion of the Island which is now under the occupation of the Gymkhana Club?"

The Hon. Mr. G. T. H. BRACKEN:—"No, Sir."

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—"Why not, Sir?"

The Hon. Mr. G. T. H. BRACKEN:—"It seems to us perfectly useless to ask for the surrender of a really good building which is of immense use to the general public."

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Diwan Bahadur M. GOPALASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" May I ask the Hon. the Finance Member to take into consideration that when the new building for the Legislative Assembly of the Province is erected, a portion of the same may be reserved for the new Andhra Province, if it is created? "

The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—" That is a hypothetical question."

Disposal of the present buildings of the Legislative Council and the accommodation of the Provincial Legislative Assembly.

* 949 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the Hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) at which place the new Provincial Legislative Council to be inaugurated under the new Reforms is to be accommodated;

(*b*) if any new building is to be arranged, where it is and what is the approximate cost to be incurred in that behalf; and

(*c*) what the Government propose to do with the present buildings of the Legislative Council?

A.—(*a*) Till a suitable building to accommodate both the Chambers of the Madras Legislature under the new constitution is constructed, the new Legislative Council (Upper House) will be accommodated in the existing Council Chamber.

(*b*) There is no necessity to arrange for a building for accommodating the Upper Chamber pending the construction of a suitable building for the two houses of the future Legislature.

(*c*) After the new building is constructed, the question of how best to utilize the existing Council Chamber will be considered.

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—" May I know whether the Hon. Member is aware that there is nothing like a building being surrendered. It is only a stretch of land in that Island Ground that we are asking for the erection of the building for the Legislative Assembly? "

The Hon. Mr. G. T. H. BRACKEN:—" The Government of India are not willing to surrender that piece of land."

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—" Will the Government be pleased to make a fresh request to the Government of India for the surrender of that portion of the Island? "

The Hon. Mr. G. T. H. BRACKEN:—" We have already suggested another site and they are not agreeable to it."

Mr. V. T. Arasu rose to put supplementary questions again.

The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—" This particular question relates to the disposal of the present building."

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Mr. M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar:—" Will the Government be pleased to examine the desirability of housing the Lower Chamber in this place since there have been plans and estimates ready for altering this building so as to suit the Lower House, and look for the housing of the Upper House elsewhere because it will be easier and cheaper? "

The Hon. Mr. G. T. H. Bracken:—" I do not think it will in any way be cheap. In fact it will be expensive."

Mr. M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar:—" Did not the Government have a scheme of altering the building so as to accommodate 230 Members? "

The Hon. Mr. G. T. H. Bracken:—" The Government had a scheme of housing the Lower House, but the alterations were very expensive."

Mr. M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar:—" May I have an idea as to what the alterations would cost? "

The Hon. Mr. G. T. H. Bracken:—" If I remember rightly it will be about half a lakh."

Diwan Bahadur M. Gopalaswami Mudaliyar:—" May I ask the Hon. the Finance Member if a better house is not required for housing the new Legislative Assembly of this Province? "

The Hon. Mr. G. T. H. Bracken:—" I quite agree that a better house is required."

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed:—" In view of the fact that the House has already passed a motion approving the proposal for the construction of a new building for the new Parliament, is it not really unnecessary that we should discuss this question over again? "

Programme of elections under the Reformed Constitution.

* 950 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder: Will the Hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any communication has been received since 1st February 1936 either from the Government of India or from the Secretary of State for India about the inauguration of the new Reforms;

(*b*) if so, what it is; and

(*c*) when the elections under the new Reforms are likely to take place?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) If the hon. Member means the date on which the Reforms will be inaugurated, no communication on the subject has been received.

(*c*) No decision has yet been made.

Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder:—" May I ask whether it is not possible to give at least the month in which the new Reforms will be inaugurated, if not the exact date? "

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The Hon. Mr. G. T. H. BRACKEN :—" In regard to that matter, the preliminary electoral rolls cannot be conveniently prepared before the close of the present fasli year, i.e., 30th June. Therefore I think that probably the election cannot take place till 1937."

Public Service

Enforcement of G.O. No. 1193, Public (Services), dated the 29th November 1934, regarding the seniority of persons holding substantive posts on 1st October 1934.

* 951 *Q.*—Rao Sahib C. JAYARAM NAYUDU : Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state— 11-a.m.

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Government have issued instructions to the heads of departments in G.O. No. 1193, Public (Services), dated 29th November 1934, as to how the seniority of persons holding substantive appointments in a lower grade, class or category of a service should be fixed before the subordinates were brought under the new general subordinate services rules which came into force on and from 1st October 1934;

(*b*) if so, whether they have laid down that these persons who at the time the said new rules came into force were holding substantive appointments included in a service, will retain in their officiating posts the seniority acquired by them under the old rules on their substantive appointments to their grades or class;

(*c*) whether they have ensured that the authorities concerned have given effect to these instructions promptly in the interests of the subordinates;

(*d*) whether they are aware that any head of department had not applied the instructions issued by them to fix the seniority of the officiating servants referred to above in the manner required by them;

(*e*) whether any memorials from the aggrieved subordinates or officers against the misapplication of the Government's instructions or any references from the authorities soliciting instructions on the interpretation of the Government Order were received by them and what orders have been issued by the Government in those cases;

(*f*) whether the Government have called for a report from the head of the Police department whether it is a fact that in the Police department the seniority of the officiating inspectors has not yet been fixed on the basis of their substantive appointments to the respective grades of sub-inspectors as required by the instructions issued by the Government to that Department and if so, what action the Government propose to take for insisting on the due compliance with their instructions;

(*g*) whether the Government will be pleased to lay on the table of the House all the instructions issued by them as to how the Government Order of 29th November 1934, should be applied to officiating inspectors holding substantive appointments on 1st October 1934 as sub-inspectors; and

(*h*) what relief the Government propose to afford to the persons affected by the non-compliance with the orders of the Government?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) Yes.

(*c*) *to* (*e*) & (*h*) Government have no reason to think that the instructions in the Government Order have not been observed by the authorities concerned. Some heads of departments have referred to Government cases involving the application of the instructions in the Government Order and have forwarded some memorials also. Government have issued orders in accordance with the Government Order.

(*f*) No report has been called for.

(*g*) No.

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"May I ask whether any machinery can be devised to find out whether the instructions issued by the Government are kept in view by the authorities concerned?"

The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM:—"Any officer affected by the non-compliance of the instructions issued by the Government can always bring to the notice of the Government that he has been adversely affected."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"Apart from individuals bringing such matters to the notice of the Government which means a certain delay and a certain risk to the officers concerned, will it not be feasible for the Government to devise some machinery to see that the instructions issued by them are kept in view and followed by the authorities concerned?"

The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM:—"It is not possible to devise any such scientific machinery."

Depressed Classes

The Arunthateeya Maha Sabha, Perambur.

* 952 *Q.*—Mr. H. M. JAGANNATHAM: Will the Hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Government have paid a sum of Rs. 2,000 for the purchase of a building, door No. 43, Perambur High Road, Madras, for the Arunthateeya Maha Sabha, Perambur, Madras, and, if so, what the conditions are under which the grant was made;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that an additional building was constructed by the Labour Department for the use of the Sabha and, if so, what the cost of the building is; and

(*c*) whether it is a fact that the Labour Department has taken action against the President of the Arunthateeya Maha Sabha for violating the conditions of the agreement, and if so, what the conditions violated are, when action was taken, and with what results?

A.—(*a*) Yes. The main condition under which the grant was made was that the Sabha should conduct a school in the building and should not divert the building to other than educational purposes approved by Government. The Sabha

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bound itself to repay forthwith the sum of Rs. 2,000 to Government when the building was no longer required for the purposes approved by the Government.

(b) Yes; Rs. 1,495.

(c) There was a violation of the conditions as the premises ceased to be utilized for running a school, but as the school was started again later no action was taken against the President of the Sabha.

Withdrawal and reduction of the rate of scholarships granted to pupils of the Depressed classes.

* 953 *Q.*—Mr. A. B. Shetty: Will the Hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Commissioner of Labour has reduced the rates of scholarships granted to pupils of Depressed classes;

(b) whether it has been represented to Government that on account of the withdrawal of scholarships for pupils reading in schools where no fees are charged, they have no means for purchasing books, clothes, etc., and

(c) whether in view of such withdrawal of scholarships, it is proposed to increase the provision for books, clothes, etc.?

A.—(a) Government have recently revised the rates of the various kinds of scholarships and the Commissioner of Labour has been given power to vary the number of scholarships and the rates subject to certain conditions.

(b) No.

(c) It is proposed to raise the limit of grant for expenses connected with fees, supply of books, etc., to students belonging to the depressed classes from Rs. 3,000 to Rs. 5,000 from the next financial year, as experience has shown that the allotments now placed at the disposal of Collectors for the purpose are inadequate to meet the needs arising in the various districts.

Mr. A. B. Shetty:—" Sir, the answer to clause (a) says that the Commissioner of Labour has power to vary the number of scholarships, but it is no answer to my question. I have asked whether the Commissioner of Labour has reduced the rates of scholarships? "

The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. Pannirselvam:—" Under certain conditions he is allowed to alter the rate of scholarship and he may have done so."

Rao Sahib V. I. Muniswami Pillai:—" With reference to the answer to clause (a) may I ask what is the saving effected by the reduction in the scholarships? "

The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. Pannirselvam:—" It is not with a view to effect savings that these alterations were made. The circumstances obtaining in the various institutions have been taken into account in fixing the scales for each."

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Rao Sahib V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—" The answer to clause (c) says that the grant for books, etc., has been raised from Rs. 3,000 to Rs. 5,000. May I ask whether the amount saved by the reduction of the scholarships will be Rs. 2,000 or more? "

The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM:—" The purpose for which this Rs. 5,000 is provided is altogether different. It is for the purpose of meeting the cost of school fees and books for the students belonging to the depressed classes. This is the amount placed at the disposal of the Collectors of the various districts."

Mr. M. DEVADASAN:—" May I ask whether all the District Collectors have been provided with money for this purpose or only Collectors of those districts where the Labour Department is working? "

The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM:—" I think it is placed at the disposal of the Collectors of all the districts."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—" May I know whether in the exercise of the powers vested in them by the Commissioner of Labour and the Collectors of the various districts, any help is rendered to them by advisory committees? "

The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM:—" Probably in the case of institutions like hostels where advisory committees exist, they do take the advice of these committees. But in other cases they act on the information furnished to them by their subordinates."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—" May I ask whether it is not possible to constitute a committee of depressed classes for each district to advise the Collector and the Commissioner of Labour both in awarding the scholarships and in varying them? "

The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM:—" I think it would be impracticable to have an advisory committee for each district which could have knowledge of the various parts of the district. It will only lead to regrettable delay."

Reduction of boarding grants payable to pupils of the Depressed classes.

* 954 *Q.*—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the Hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether Government have reduced the rate of boarding grants sanctioned for the pupils of the Depressed classes;

(*b*) whether in granting boarding grants for orphanages by the Education Department various other items in addition to food charges are taken into account; and

(*c*) whether Government similarly take into account all items of expenditure in arriving at the rate of boarding grants in respect of pupils of Depressed classes who are in boarding houses maintained by non-official organizations?

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A.—(*a*) No.

(*b*) No.

(*c*) The boarding grants ordinarily take into account the charges of boarding only.

Mr. A. B SHETTY:—"May I ask whether there is any difference between the rate of boarding grants paid to the pupils of the depressed classes and the rate paid for a similar purpose in the Education Department?"

The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM:—"I am not aware of the rate paid in the Education Department."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"May I ask whether there is any difference in the rates paid for the students of the various communities?"

The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM:—"I am not aware, Sir. I know only the rate paid for the depressed classes."

S. M. K. BEYABANI SAHIB Bahadur:—"May I ask what is the underlying principle in giving grants to the pupils of the depressed classes? In certain areas in the rural parts although the Muslim population is in a majority, we find that in a school of hundred pupils there are only 20 Muslims while there are 80 pupils of the depressed classes. But still concessions are granted to the depressed classes."

The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM:—"The principle on which concessions are granted to the depressed classes is that they are depressed. Whatever else the Muslims may be, they are certainly not depressed."

Electricity

Rates charged by the Madras Electric Supply Corporation for supply of electricity.

* 955 *Q.*—Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO: Will the Hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) the terms under which the licence was granted to the Madras Electric Supply Corporation as regards rates of supply;

(*b*) when the contract is to expire;

(*c*) the maxima and minima rates of supply to the consumers as mentioned in the contract;

(*d*) whether any reduction has been made in the rates of supply since its beginning and, if so, to what extent; and

(*e*) whether there is any proposal to take up the supply of electricity to Madras into the hands of the Government, either by buying up the private company or by supplying it from any Government source?

A.—(*a*) & (*c*) The following three licences were ganted to the Madras Electric Supply Corporation, Limited:—

(1) The Madras Electric Licence, 1905.

(2) The Madras (Port) Electric Licence, 1909.

(3) The Madras (Cantonments) Electric Licence, 1910.

The terms as regards rates of supply and the maximum rates which the licensee was authorized to charge under the abovementioned licences are furnished in the statement 'A' appended [a] to this answer. No minimum limit has been fixed for the rates approved in the above licences.

(b) The tenure of the three licences will last in the first instance till 29th August 1947; the option of purchase of the licensee's concern is exercisable by Government for the first time on that date, and if the concern is not purchased then, at the end of every subsequent period of *ten* years during the subsistence of the licences.

(d) Yes. The extent to which the rates have been reduced is indicated in the comparative statement of tariffs (statement B) appended.

The licensees have recently submitted proposals for reduced rates and they are under scrutiny by the Electric Inspector.

(e) There is at present no proposal under the consideration of Government to purchase the licensee's electrical undertaking or to supply electricity to Madras from any Government source.

Mr. G. Rameswara Rao:—" In the statement 'B' we find various rates for different purposes. May I know the principle underlying the charging of different rates for different purposes? "

The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu:—" I suppose they are different classes of loads and so the rates should differ."

Mr. G. Rameswara Rao:—" The power consumed is the same; but why should the rates differ? "

The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu:—" The load consumed is different for the different hours of the day."

Diwan Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar:—" May I ask whether the rates sanctioned in this case are the same as those in the schedule of rates charged for supply of energy under the Hydro-Electric scheme? "

The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu:—" They are not exactly the same."

Diwan Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar:—" May I ask whether the rates are higher or lower? "

The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu:—" That cannot be answered off-hand."

Diwan Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar:—" It is stated that the licensees have recently applied for further reduction in rates. May I ask whether those rates will be reduced very much below what they are in the schedule? "

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[a] Printed as Appendix II on page 314 infra.

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The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu :—" The licensees have never applied for reduction of rates."

Diwan Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar :—" It is stated in the answer that ' the licensees have recently submitted proposals for reduced rates,' etc. ? "

The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu :—" Then that is all right."

[*Note.*—**An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.**]

II. BUDGET FOR 1936–37—VOTING OF DEMANDS FOR GRANTS—*cont.*

DEMAND II—EXCISE—TRANSFERRED—*cont.*

* The Hon. the President :—" The discussion on Demand II will continue."

Mr. Daniel Thomas :—" Sir, the question of prohibition has come up in this House several times during the last few years and on every occasion it has received a different kind of treatment. At one time the question of total prohibition was seriously and earnestly considered by this House, and a resolution was passed to the effect that prohibition should be the definite goal of the policy of the Government and that the goal should be reached within a period of 20 years. For the first time now the conditions of the problem have changed. Owing to the serious economic depression the Government have financial difficulties to face. The depression has also altered to a certain extent the attitude of the people throughout the province towards the immediate practicability of a scheme of prohibition. At present hon. Members are not in a position to press on the Government the need to embark on schemes for the purpose of carrying out a policy of prohibition. But all the same there are certain aspects and features of the problem to which I should like to draw the attention of the Government. I find in the Administration Report for the year 1934–35 the following statement:—

' . . . *there was an increase under foreign liquor, beer and ganja and in* the number of trees marked during the first ten months of the toddy year 1934–35.'

On the next page, page 162, we find the following statement:—

' A reduction (by about 25 per cent) in the duty on arrack as a necessary part of the campaign against *illicit distillation was ordered with effect from 1st* April 1935.'

I do not know, Sir, whether this policy of reducing the duty on arrack was for the purpose of increasing the consumption of arrack, and if so whether that is consistent with the declared policy of the Government. No doubt the justification put forward by the Government is that illicit distillation had increased and in order to stop that, they had to reduce the duty and make arrack cheaper. But I would suggest that the better course would have been to strengthen the detective staff and carry on a more vigorous campaign of detection instead of making arrack cheaper and facilitate its consumption in larger quantities.

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But the position with reference to foreign liquor seems to be still more alarming. Here again I find at page 164 of the Administration Report the following statement:—

> 'There was an increase in consumption under all the heads. This is attributed to the popularity of foreign liquor not only amongst the educated classes, but also amongst the middle classes amongst whom the taste for foreign liquor in preference to arrack is reported to be spreading.'

The statement seems to be one which gives just cause for alarm. I would like if at all our people were going in for drink, they went in for toddy and arrack in preference to foreign liquor. Though the revenue from foreign liquor goes to the Government of India the issue of licences and the framing of regulations with regard to the vending of foreign liquor are entirely in the hands of the Provincial Government. Therefore I think that something more stringent and effective should be done by the Government in order to prevent this increased consumption of foreign liquor. If the Government seriously contemplate the stoppage of the increased consumption of foreign liquor, ways and means could be easily devised for the purpose of carrying out that policy.

"Sir, I should like to say a few words with reference to the prohibition experiments carried on in the various parts of the Province. The general trend of departmental reports in regard to these experiments is that prohibition has not been successful and that as a matter of fact these experiments have only given facilities and opportunities for illicit distillation. But, Sir, I am afraid that these schemes have not been given a fair chance of success. If the Government wish to carry on these prohibition experiments in selected areas, it is but fair and reasonable to expect them to try these experiments under as favourable conditions as possible in order that they may result in success. But as these experiments are at present being carried out, they are not given any fair chance of success.

·30 n. "Take the district of Tinnevelly. The experiment along the lines of prohibition was sought to be introduced in a certain select area in Tinnevelly. There are several taluks in the district and yet one taluk was selected out of these taluks and that taluk was one which was least fitted for carrying on the experiment. That taluk was Tenkasi which is on the borderland of the Travancore State wherefrom there is every facility for illicit liquor being brought in; out of the many taluks of Tinnevelly, this taluk of Tenkasi was selected for the experiment of prohibition, I am unable to understand why, except on the basis that it was selected for the purpose of showing that the experiment of prohibition cannot succeed. If that were the object, it has been fully and completely achieved. The department can now say that in the taluk of Tenkasi in the Tinnevelly district this experiment of prohibition has proved a failure and therefore the experiment should be given up. If any other taluk in that district had been selected, the experiment would have proved successful. A specially unsuitable area, the taluk of Tenkasi, was selected and the experiment of prohibition has

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been proved to be useless. If the Government carry on this experiment of prohibition in selected areas in a half-hearted way, on half-hearted lines, I am constrained to urge on the Government that they might as well candidly give up the whole thing altogether. They may say that they are not prepared to carry on any of these experiments. They may say: 'we are in need of finance; we are not able to meet the campaign of illicit distillation; therefore this experiment shall cease to be carried on under the auspices of the Madras Government.' If the Government carry on this experiment in a half-hearted way, I would urge that the Government may change their policy of prohibition. I would therefore respectfully urge on the Government that so far as the schemes of prohibition which are now being carried on in other areas of the Province are concerned, every facility should be given and care taken so that in these selected areas at any rate the experiment of prohibition might be a success."

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed:—" Sir, I do not think it will serve any useful purpose to discuss about total prohibition, temperance or intemperance at this stage. Probably it will be better if the Hon. Minister in charge of this portfolio were to say that even as other problems have been shelved until the next reformed constitution or Provincial Autonomy comes into force, this campaign of total prohibition also may be considered by the next Government. Probably that way the matter can be disposed of easily. To-day I do not want to take up the time of the Council except for referring to two or three particular points in which I feel interested. In the first place, I would like the Government to seriously consider the question of transferring all the excise revenue they are deriving from the city limits of Madras to the resources of the Corporation. I would like to urge this point for the consideration of the Government for this reason. Inasmuch as the Corporation has been constituted into an autonomous and self-governing body, it is very essential on the part of the Government that they should augment its resources so as not to keep it in a very stagnant condition. As the Government have observed, to-day the finances of the Corporation are not really sound, because our revenues are not expanding; our expenditure is daily increasing. With Rs. 60 or Rs. 65 lakhs, the Corporation has to cater to the needs, amenities and the necessities of nearly 6½ lakhs of people. The problems that confront the Corporation are very many and it is becoming increasingly difficult to solve these problems. I would urge upon the attention of the Government for their very serious consideration that they should transfer all the excise revenue that they are deriving from within the city limits to the funds of the Corporation and help the Corporation in that way.

" The next point to which I would invite the attention of the Government is this: the Government will have to give full autonomy to this local self-governing unit in the matter of location of toddy shops. Incidentally, in connexion with this point, I must say that the excise licensing board constituted for this city has proved a total failure. They are in fact admittedly ineffective bodies exercising no

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power and no authority at all. Time and again in the Council of the Corporation as well as outside the Corporation there have been attempts made to see that the excise licensing board comes to a sound decision with regard to the location of certain toddy shops; they have all proved futile. The licensing boards must either be abolished or must continue to be useful institutions helpful in the matter of location of these shops in healthy localities without being detrimental to the interest of the public. They must be given certain powers which should be final with them. The present constitution of the boards, the way in which their advice is sought and the way in which their advice is regarded are surely unbecoming of the primary institution which sends up their representatives to the boards. I would therefore say that we should end these boards; there is no use of retaining them as mere links to dance to the tune of the Collectors who preside over these boards; or you must mend them so as to be really useful institutions. I for one would say that the Corporation should be given, so far as the city of Madras is concerned, absolute power to locate the toddy and arrack shops wherever they choose. In fact there are many anomalies or anachronisms persisting in regard to the location of arrack and toddy shops in many divisions in the city. In particular I may bring to the notice of the Hon. Minister that in my division, in the fifth—Harbour division—we have got a toddy shop located very near the Corporation schools, one for Muhammadan boys and the other for the Adi-Dravida boys. There are, I understand, Government Orders and instructions that these toddy shops should not be located in the vicinity of cheris and residences of depressed classes and labouring classes. This particular shop is located just within three or four yards of the cheris which are occupied by depressed classes. The temptation, the crowd, the nuisance and the detriment it causes to the health and lives of the people living near by are so very discouraging; I cannot understand how not only the licensing board but also the Collector should time after time choose that place for the location of the shop. I myself attempted by sending mass petitions on behalf of the residents of the locality to redress that injustice and inequity. So far, my attempt has not met with any success; I would therefore say that either these boards must go or they must be given more effective powers; then public opinion can be brought to bear upon the board and upon the Collector who is virtually the board. Since the Corporation has been entrusted with the duties of looking after the drainage and water-supply schemes, public health and education in order to develop good citizenship, I would urge that the location of toddy shops which has its influence on the development of good citizenship within the city of Madras, should be left to the control and decision of the Council of the Corporation. If this is done, I am sure that some very healthy results would follow. I would therefore ask the Hon. Minister in all humility to consider this suggestion of giving absolute autonomy and absolute power to the Corporation with regard to the location of toddy and arrack shops. If the power is to be vested in the Collector of Madras, at least the voice of the Corporation must prevail in regard to the location of these toddy and arrack shops within the city of Madras. The opinion of the Corporation

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should be elicited beforehand with regard to the location of these shops. I would request the Government to seriously consider this suggestion.

" There is another point to which I wish to refer on this occasion, that is with regard to the necessity and desirability of more direct recruitment to the posts of Excise Inspector and Excise Assistant Commissioners. Time and again on the floor of this Council and in their correspondence with Members, the Government have stated that the inequalities in the matter of representation of minority communities in the services are sought to be remedied and redressed by means of direct recruitment. I find that in the Excise department the proportion of the various minority communities which are entitled to their due share, is far below the quota which has been fixed by the Government. The only method to rectify the defect is to increase the number of people who are recruited directly. As long as the present policy of the Government, of promoting people from the lower grades to the higher grades continues, it would be difficult for the Government to bring up the proportion of the unrepresented communities to their due share. In order to give a rapid push to the representation of the minority communities in these services, it is very necessary and desirable that more Excise Inspectors and Assistant Commissioners of Excise should be recruited directly. The procedure that is now followed by the Government of promoting people according to their seniority will not be of any avail at all to the minority communities as long as it is going to be pursued. It must take no less than 30 or 40 years before the communities will reach their due proportion, if this method of recruitment by promoton is to be adhered to. I would therefore urge that the scheme of direct recruitment to a larger extent should be considered. This is quite necessary for this reason; for a long time these departments have got into a sort of rut and in order to get clear of the rut and also in order to root out corruption that prevails here and there, it is very necessary and desirable in the interests of the service that there should be a lot of new blood infused from time to time. Fresh recruitment in the Revenue Department and in the Police Department has always proved to be advantageous to those services. I do not see why direct recruitment for this service also should not be advantageous as a whole. The infusion of fresh men, young men, men with wider and broader outlook among people who have got themselves into the rut, will certainly be advantageous, from the point of view of efficiency and improvement of the department.

" Sir, there is another point which I would merely touch and not dilate upon. There is great scope of improvement if the Government would revise their policy in the matter of levying licence fees on foreign liquors. The policy which has been hitherto followed by the Government has not been very much to the advantage of the public. I would urge that this policy should undergo some revision so that the Government would derive more benefit from out of the import of foreign liquor. We would be giving much encouragement to indigenous manufacture, if we levy prohibitive charges on the importation of foreign liquor.

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It is necessary that we should encourage more and more indigenous production and indigenous manufacture. The Government should revise their policy to make the import of foreign liquors as prohibitive as possible in order to facilitate and give real encouragement to local manufacture and local industry."

1-45 p.m. * Mr. G. R. Premayya:—" Mr. President, Sir, I rise to support the cut motion so ably moved by my hon. Friend, Mr. Nachiyappa Gounder. Sir, there are some abkari advisory boards started in this department who advise the Collectors whenever they want sanction for the establishment of shops. These abkari advisory boards meet once or twice a year. I have been a member of such an advisory board in Guntur. The other day, Sir, when we met there, we jointly opposed the idea of adding more shops to the original list; and the Sub-Collector informed us that the Commissioner of Excise wanted him to get those shops sanctioned by the advisory board. All of us said that we were against the proposal, and the Sub-Collector said that he could not proceed with the question unless he got the co-operation of the members of the advisory board. So, the question was referred to the Collector and then I guess that they were approved by the Collector. Afterwards, Sir, the clerks in the Sub-Collector's office told us that although we did not approve of the proposal, it would be sanctioned by the Collector or the Commissioner. I asked the Sub-Collector why there was this advisory board if the Collector could sanction the proposal himself; and he said it was only an advisory board and that he might or might not consult the board. An Excise officer told me 'what is the use of your coming here and attacking us? You go to your Council and tell your Minister not to allow us to add new shops to the old list.' He added 'You are a member of the Justice Party, of which the Minister of Excise is also a member.' I was very much ashamed at being told by that Excise officer that I was a member of the Justice Party and that this policy is adopted by the Justice Party. Sir, some time ago, the Justice Party adopted a resolution that prohibition should be the goal within twenty years. That was accepted by every one of the members, and I also accepted it. Since then, Sir, the present Hon. Minister for Excise has been in this department for the last six years; this is the sixth year. Every year I have been expecting to see whether he would do anything in the direction of prohibition. Every year he has been bluffing us; he is not only bluffing the Council Members, but also the whole country at large. Sir, it is the declared policy of the Justice Party that we should have prohibition within twenty years. Hon. the Minister for Excise never denies it, but he goes on allowing his subordinates to add more shops to the list. I think that is a bluff. This year he did not even give any allotment for temperance propaganda committees which have been doing good service in the country. If he goes on doing like this—I do not know if I would be allowed to use the word 'shame'—it will be a shame to the party and to the Minister himself. Sir, some time ago, I went a bit out of the way and called him a deaf and dumb gentleman. This year I will call him a blind gentleman, because he does not know what is going on under his very

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nose. His subordinates are adding shop after shop year after year; I think, he knows it, but he is blind enough not to see these things. I have nothing personally against the gentleman. I have practically nothing to say against him. He has been very kind to my friend Mr. Moses, and I wish he would be kinder to him. Personally, he is very amiable, easily accessible unlike others and I know that he is a perfect gentleman. But when I come to talk of the department of which he is the head, I say he is going ahead and doing things which he is not supposed to do.

" With only one word, Sir, I shall finish. I was told by somebody that in some of the provinces they are taxing brothels and they are getting income from the brothels! I say that the income the Government gets from this department is similar to the income from those brothels."

* Mr. M. S. Sreshta :—" Mr. President, Sir. I do not think it is necessary for me to say much against the policy of prohibition, because I find that a large number of speakers who have hitherto been in favour of the policy of prohibition are now weakening. I heard my hon. Friend, Mr. Basheer Ahmed, saying to-day that it was desirable to increase the production of indigenous liquor. That was the trend or the gist of the remarks of my friend, Mr. Daniel Thomas also. What they meant probably was that if people are going to have drink, let them have indigenous drink. I think that is a very sound proposition, and I heartily subscribe to it. I would also go further and ask what exactly those who are in favour of prohibition are aiming it. Is it possible to stop the consumption of liquor by closing shops? If that were possible, I would certainly say 'close all the shops.' But what happens is this: if you close the shops, the drink is sold illicitly. A few interpellations put last year elicited the information that in the last four years or five years, the number of cases of illicit sale of arrack had gone up by 80 per cent—practically double the number of cases that were instituted about four years ago. That shows that unless we are very careful, we shall not, by closing the shops, and by adopting the policy of prohibition, be doing any good whatever. I think that before the Indian Taxation Enquiry Committee one of the Ministers of a Provincial Government stated that it would cost about Rs. 2 crores to carry out the policy of prohibition in one year in his province; and I think another witness also said that it would require a standing army to carry out that policy. I was instancing in a previous speech in this Council, the case of Ceylon where the policy of prohibition was attempted and was an utter failure. I do not think, Sir, it is necessary for me therefore to speak in favour of not adopting the prohibition policy. I do not know what any party which is going to come into power next year is going to do; but if the policy of any party is going to be prohibition, that party will have to face facts. The income derived from excise now is about Rs. 4 crores per annum, while the income derived from land revenue is about Rs. 7½ crores. If the idea is to abolish land revenue assessment also, you will have to make up about Rs. 11½ crores. How

is it possible? One suggestion was that we should increase the price of liquor. Diwan Bahadur Arogyaswami Mudaliyar made a suggestion years ago that the price of arrack should be increased. But it is overlooked that if the price of drink is increased, illicit sales will increase, and the profits which are to go to the Government and indirectly to the tax-payer will go to the bootlegger. This contingency must be avoided. I think Mr. Thomas made a suggestion to the effect that the price of arrack should be increased and that it was a mistake that the price was reduced last year. In my opinion, Sir—and I think the Hon. the Minister for Excise will agree with me—the price of arrack should be lowered. I do not think that will increase consumption at all; on the other hand, the labourer, the poor man, who cannot give up the habit of drink will have a great relief. You cannot compel the coolie or the poor man to leave this habit by an enactment of this Council. It is necessary that there should be a general conviction among people that the drink habit should be given up before the Council can intervene in this matter. A legislative enactment is not the only factor in regard to the drink question. There are various factors which come into play and an enactment of this Council is only a very minor factor. If there were a general feeling all over the country among all sections of the people that drinking is wrong and it should be prohibited, then of course, the matter would be easier. But there are several sections of the public which do not consider that the drink habit should be entirely prohibited. This being so, I do not think it is possible by any enactment to put a stop to drink. On the other hand, we must face facts and see how we can improve the position. In my opinion, Sir, the price of arrack should be further lowered. My reason for this suggestion is this: the cost of arrack is now the same as it was some years ago, whereas the cost of foodstuffs has gone down. The wages of the coolie also have gone down considerably, while the man who is addicted to drink has got to pay the same price for it, with the result that there is hardship to his family. I would myself wish that all of us were teetotallers, but till that consummation is achieved, some provision must be made for people who must drink, and I think it will be nothing short of cruelty to the poorer labouring classes if they should be prevented from drinking. As a matter of fact, all classes of people are not affected; at any rate the richer classes are not, because, whatever the price may be, they will be in a position to buy their liquor. Therefore, why should the poor man alone suffer? Recently I read statistics to show that in America, the adoption of such a policy did not at all affect the richer classes; they did not suffer. In any case, whatever our opinions may be, the abandonment of the prohibition policy in America shows that it is not possible now to attempt that policy in this country. I come now to the . . ."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Order, order. I wish to inform the hon. Member that the demand has to be put to vote at 12-20 p.m. The Hon. the Minister for Excise may perhaps require twenty minutes at least for his reply."

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* Mr. M. S. Sreshta :—" I am coming now to some concrete suggestions and I won't take much time. I would also suggest that the quality of liquor should be improved; that would be, I think, in accordance with the suggestion of Mr. Basheer Ahmed. If we improve the quality, arrack will be less injurious and it will then be possible to compete with foreign liquor. The revenue of the Central Government may thereby be reduced by reason of the dimunition of excise duty; but the revenue of this Province will be increased; and this is more important to us.

" Then, Sir, I would like to make a suggestion about the number of Assistant Inspectors in South Kanara. I find that the number of men recruited from this district is very small. Probably it may not be known to hon. Members of this House and perhaps it may not be known to the Hon. the Minister, that the language spoken in Kanara is Tulu and not Kanarese except in the extreme south and south of South Kanara; and the result is that if an official who knows Kanarese is appointed he will not be able to do his work efficiently in South Kanara. Therefore it is necessary that these officers should also know Tulu. For that reason there will be justification even if more men from South Kanara are appointed than would be justified by the ordinary quota.

" The other suggestion that I would like to make is this: it has been stated that the Excise department is very corrupt. I must admit it is very corrupt, but I do not think the blame for that could be laid entirely at the door of the department. In this department temptations are very great and so long as the temptations are great, it is not possible to keep an uncorrupt service. What I would say is, take away the temptation and take away the opportunities for the practice of this pernicious system of mamul which prevails. That can only be done by adopting the suggestion made by me and that is by the Hon. the Minister facing the question boldly and introducing more reforms, so that the consumption of licit liquor may be increased and at the same time the consumption of illicit liquor and corruption in the department may be diminished."

* The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar :—" Mr. President, Sir, in the debate on this demand it was usual to hear a great deal in previous years about the urgent need for introducing total prohibition, if not in the whole Presidency, at least in some of the districts of the Presidency. This year also, there has been some criticism against the Government for not undertaking large measures of prohibition. I should think those criticisms have been sufficiently met by others who pointed out the real difficulties in undertaking any such large measures. Those critics who said that the Government have not been as active as they ought to have been with regard to the introduction of prohibition, I am afraid, have said nothing that is new or impressive. So, if I undertake to meet their criticisms, I should be only repeating what I myself said in previous years. I shall not repeat all those arguments but perhaps I may be permitted to mention one matter which has been already mentioned by the Hon. the Finance Member

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and by several leading members on the Opposition Benches themselves. The Hon. the Finance Member has told the House that any spectacular innovations will not only be out of question but also out of place now, and the hon. Member for Coimbatore, Mr. Ramalingam Chettiyar, who started the general discussion this time, fully endorsed what the Hon. the Finance Member said, and deprecated the undertaking by the Government of any large new measures involving great changes. So, under these circumstances, I should consider that the criticisms that have been offered against the lethargy of the Government in this matter are not quite justifiable.

" My hon. Friend, Mr. Shetty, who was perhaps the most vehement advocate of prohibition this time complained about the thinness of the House when he was speaking. The House was undoubtedly thin when he spoke, but he attributed the thinness to a realization by the hon. Members of this House to the irresponsiveness of the Minister-in-charge to the requests made in this House. I am afraid that is not a correct interpretation of the position. On the other hand, I would attribute it to the realization by the hon. Members of the House of the impracticability of accepting the suggestions that he was making in this House. Well, Sir, I shall not detain the House any longer in dealing with this question of total prohibition. So far as measures of partial prohibition are concerned, I am however glad to say that nothing that had been introduced in previous years, has been withdrawn during the current year. The partial prohibition which had been introduced in the districts of Tanjore and Ramnad—two taluks in each—proved successful and it has been continued. My hon. Friend, Mr. Muniswami Pillai, referred to the partial prohibition amongst the hill-tribes in the Nilgiris. He knows full well the history of this measure of partial prohibition. It has been in existence for some years, and from almost the first year of its introduction, it was found that the measure was not likely to succeed as much as Government at first thought it might.

" The question of penalizing possession has been engaging the attention of Government for several years and so much has been said against it not only by the representatives of the hill-tribes but by others also that the Government hesitated to undertake any such change. Not only myself, but two of my predecessors in office, Mr. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar and Mr. Muthiah Mudaliyar, were both of them against it. Last year, Sir, two temperance workers who were introduced to me by the hon. Members representing the Nilgiris in this House, represented that even without penalizing possession this measure of partial prohibition has met with success and it would be worthwhile to continue it and so it was continued. Though the report which has been received after the continuance of the experiment for another year has not been quite in favour of its further continuance, still the Government have decided not to drop it. The experiment is still further to be continued and if it is found at the end of the year that any changes are necessary or that the experiment should continue as it is, Government will come to a decision then. I have been getting very helpful suggestions with regard to this matter from the hon. Members representing the Nilgiris,

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ut the question is so very difficult that they themselves have found t not easy to come to any definite decision as to what has to be done vith regard to this partial prohibition.

" Reference has been made to the recent reduction of the duty on rrack by the Government. This has been criticized as a step which is pposed to the declared policy of the Government in favour of total rohibition. I do not think, Sir, that that is a correct criticism at all. Iy hon. Friend Mr. Sreshta has complimented me for having done a hing like that. It was not without hesitation that the Government greed to such a reduction. The most disquieting feature with regard o arrack was found to be the enormous increase in illicit practices. hose cases which were actually detected were themselves very large in umber, and hon. Members will realize that for every fifty cases which vere detected there would be at least fifty which went undetected. While illicit practices were going on in such a large scale, it was certainly he duty of those in charge of excise administration to devise measures o prevent them. As my hon. Friend pointed out, by the consumption of llicit liquor and the manufacture of illicit liquor the Government stand o lose and the consumer does not get good liquor but gets only impure iquor; and consumption does not decrease. Instead of the pure liquor which is reqnired for the man who wants to drink, he goes in for cheaper llicit liquor. That is the state of things now which has certainly to be emedied; and one of the measures proposed was the reduction in the uty on arrack. Other provinces were consulted and it was found that imilar measure of reduction in the other provinces produced satisactory results and on the facts and figures which were obtained y the Commissioner on a reference to the other provinces, he dvised the Government that as an experimental measure for reducing llicit distillation in this Presidency this reduction in the duty on arrack night be tried, and that is how Government came to reduce the duty on rrack.

" My hon. Friend Mr. Nachiyappa Gounder has, I am sorry to say, een inconsistent in the criticisms that he has offered as disclosed by he very cut motions he has given notice of. While on the one side, he as criticized the Government for reducing the duty on arrack, which as submitted, the Government had to do as a measure calculated to reduce llicit distillatiou, on the other, he charges the Government with inactiity in regard to stopping illicit practices. I cannot see how these wo things can be consistent with each other. If illicit practices have o be stopped, measures like the reduction of the duty on arrack have to be ndertaken. The step that the Government have taken is calculated to educe illicit practices and so must be welcomed by all who are interested n the proper administration of the excise policy of the Government.

" Before my time expires, I should say a word or two with regard o the somewhat outspoken remarks of my hon. Friend Mr. Premayya. f by referring to my kindness to his friend Mr. Moses he sought to mply that I have not been so to him, I must enter an emphatic protest

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against that. I have always been as good and as kind to my hon. Friend Mr. Premayya as to Mr. Moses and I would like to continue to do so."

Mr. G. R. PREMAYYA:—"On a matter of personal explanation, Sir, I never asked for any favours."

* The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"That is why my hon. Friend Mr. Premayya has not been given any favours. Well, my hon. Friend Mr. Moses asked for some favours and he got them, and if he had also asked for some favours as Mr. Moses has done, then he would have got them too. Again he appears to have taken the statement made by an Excise subordinate as the declared policy of the Government of Madras: in doing so he is making a very bad mistake. An Excise Sub-Inspector is not a Member of the Government and cannot declare the policy of the Government and my hon. Friend need not on that account be ashamed of the Party to which he has the honour to belong or of the Minister drawn from among the members of that
2-15 p.m. Party. If he will bring to the notice of the Government any act of the excise subordinate which is inconsistent with the policy of the Government he may be sure that action would be taken against the officer. I would therefore request him not to take the statement of subordinate officers as representing the policy of the Government and base any criticisms on such statements.

"With regard to the excise advisory board, his experience is rather unfortunate. My Friend, Mr. Nachiyappa Gounder, who is such an unrelenting critic of the Government and the departments of administration, admitted yesterday while speaking on this demand that he was able to persuade the excise advisory board to accept a proposal of his in spite of the protests of the excise inspector. So my hon. Friend Mr. Premayya might know from that that the excise officer's opinion is not the last word on the subject. I have heard criticisms against the present constitution and powers of the excise advisory boards and the excise licensing boards. I am not going to enter into any details just now but I may say for the information of the House that Government have received a memorandum of the Madras Temperance League which contains many detailed proposals for the revision of the constitution of these bodies and the enlargement of their powers. This memorandum is under consideration and in that connexion the observations made by the Members of this House will also be borne in mind. With regard to the proposal of my Friend, Mr. Basheer Ahmed, about foreign liquor being made more costly, I may say for his information that Government have decided to revise the system of fees; and the revision is expected to increase the present income under that head by two lakhs and a half. The Hon. the Finance Member himself indicated such a change as going to be made in his budget speech.

"With regard to direct recruitment of inspectors, Government have decided that one out of four appointments should be by direct recruitment and the rule of communal rotation will be applied to such direct recruitment so as to remove communal inequalities. With regard to

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assistant commissioners I am sorry that we cannot introduce either the communal rule or appoint on mere seniority. They are selection posts and the best man must be appointed to them. So while I cannot accept his proposal with regard to the assistant commissioners, with regard to the inspectors rules have already issued for direct recruitment and as a result of that, communal inequalities will soon disappear. I may perhaps refer to one matter which particularly interested me and which was mentioned by my Friend, Mr. Schamnad. Hon. Members of the House would remember that my predecessor introduced the system of propaganda boards both in the City of Madras and the districts. Its main object was to create public opinion in favour of temperance. That had to be given up on the recommendation of the Retrenchment Committee. But a small amount used to be provided year after year for subsidizing non-official bodies who undertake propaganda work. My hon. Friends, Mr. Muniswami Pillai, Mr. Shetty, and one or two others complained that this provision had been omitted. I may mention for their information that in a previous year when no provision was made Government by reappropriation were able to find some money to subsidize such non-official bodies when there was a request from them. I may say even in the future if a genuine request from any non-official body were made we may possibly find money by reappropriation. I may say that some years the money which had been provided for had to be surrendered because they could not find any proper non-official body to whom the money could be paid. What struck me as very interesting in the remarks of Mr. Schamnad was when he said that the best propaganda would be the example set by the leaders, and the treasury benches should set an example for others to follow. I fully agree with my hon. Friend and may be permitted to say that by my own example I am making perhaps the best possible contribution to the cause of prohibition. (Hear, hear.) I hope, Sir, in the light of the circumstances which I have placed before the Hon. House, my Friend Mr. Nachiyappa Gounder will not insist on a greater speed towards attaining the goal of prohibition than it has been possible for the Government to show."

The cut motion [a] was put and lost.

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND III—STAMPS—RESERVED.

* The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu :—" Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I move—

> ' *that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs.* 1,99,500 *under Demand III—Stamps—Reserved* '."

* Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder :—" Mr. President, I beg to move the cut motion, namely:—

> ' *To reduce the allotment of Rs.* 5,300 *for Charges for the sale of stamps—Presidency town by Rs.* 100.'

[a] To reduce the allotment of Rs. 11,400 for Excise—Transferred—Excise Commissioner—Pay of Officers by Rs. 100.

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Sir, my object in moving this motion is to point out the crushing effect which the present high rate of stamp duty is having on the poor debtor and to make a request of the Government to see their way to reduce the rate of stamp duty which they said at the time of introducing the enhanced rate they will reduce at the earliest opportunity. When they took up the enhancement of the stamp duty, I learn, Sir, that they gave a definite undertaking that it is a purely temporary measure and it will be reduced at the earliest opportunity. I am sorry to see that the earliest opportunity does not seem to have come yet and the Government have not taken up that question. This heavy stamp duty, I should like to point out, is putting only the poor people who are generally debtors into difficulty. Once a poor man borrows a certain amount from a rich individual that loan is allowed to stand over for a certain period and at last the rich man files a suit and thereby makes a sudden increase in the amount due considerably by way of stamp duty, etc., besides principal and interest. Then he gets the decree and brings the land or other property which is available for sale and ultimately realizes the amount. At this stage the cost of stamp duty and other things are included in the amount that is to be realized and the unfortunate debtor who is habitually poor is put to the necessity of meeting all these heavy costs. We find, Sir, in these days when the people are not able to pay back their debts, even the very principals, if such exorbitant stamp duties are added to their debt, it is a matter for consideration for a moment how it is possible for the debtors to clear their debts. Ever since the depression came in the debtors find it very difficult even to pay the very amount they have borrowed, since the value of their properties has fallen by leaps and bounds. If such exorbitant stamp duties are added on, it is impossible for them to clear off the debts and redeem themselves and their properties. So this enhanced rate of stamp duty affects the poor people to the greatest extent and so it is necessary that the Government should take up this question now and see that they satisfy the promise which they had made at the time of enhancing the stamp duty. Another difficulty is that the people of the country are taxed in all possible ways and that is why they are not able to bear the increased taxation to any extent
-30
.m.
and they long for the reduction of taxation at all possible points. We see, Sir, that each and every individual is to pay some tax or other on each and everything. We have taxes even for the very salt and other daily amenities which one is to have. I believe, I can say without fear of contradiction that there is nothing in the world without some tax put upon it. When there is such a levy of taxation on each and everything, I should say that it should be a moderate one and that it must be made to be within the means of the poor man who has to pay all these taxes. So from this point of view, I would urge that the Government should be moderate in levying taxes. Speaking the other day on the matter of stamp duty, my hon. Friend, Mr. Muthu Chettiyar, has pointed out in a very humorous way how the levy of stamp duty works, and he urged for a reduction. The Government may think that it is from the point of view of the rich people that

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the demand is made. I can say that the rich people are not the sufferers by this, because they are only put to the necessity of incurring this expenditure on stamp duty at the initial stage, but ultimately they recover it from the poor people who are groaning under the depression and who are habitually indebted and immersed in poverty. So, with a view to give relief to the poorer classes, I would urge that the Government should take up this question of reducing the stamp duty.

" Then, Sir, I may pass on to another question which I have made mention of last year at the time of the budget demands, and that is to have stamp-vendors for each and every area. Last year, Sir, I suggested that they may have one stamp-vendor at least for a radius of three miles, so that it may be easy for the public to have their requirements at the nearest possible place. As it is, I find that in many areas there are not such amenities, and the people are put to the necessity of going a long way to have their purchases made. Last year, I made this suggestion, and I do not know how far the Government went into the question and took steps to remedy the defect which existed in certain places. Hence this year I am obliged to repeat the same question, to induce the Government to move in that direction if they have not already done. This is a great necessity from the point of view of the convenience of the public. At the same time, I may point out that it is in no way expensive to the Government, because they are simply paying commission on the sale of stamps and so there cannot be any additional expenditure in this direction.

" Another question which I raised last year is the issue of stamps on credit system to the stamp-vendors. As far as my knowledge goes, the Government are generally adopting a system by which the stamp-vendors are to pay for the amount of stamps which they are taking delivery of for sale. On account of this system, the stamp-vendors who are not able to make large investments in this affair, are not able to stock each sort of stamps in sufficient numbers and of all denominations, and it is rather difficult for the ryots and other people in the locality to get all varieties of stamps of required numbers and values from one stamp-vendor. Oftentimes they are put to the necessity of going to more than one stamp-vendor to get their requirements because they are not able to get the various denominations of stamp papers which they are in need of from one man. The Government may say that there are difficulties in allowing the issue of stamps on credit. But I may suggest that by taking proper personal securities they may distribute the stamps on credit system and recover the dues as sales take place. They may adopt a system like this so that it may be of help both to the stamp-vendors and the public. I hope the Government will consider this suggestion and see that effect is given to it at all centres at an early date.

" With regard to the rates of stamp duty, I would once again urge upon the Hon. the Law Member to take up immediately the question of effecting a reduction in the rates. If he could not do it in his own

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regime, I wish he will at least pave the way for the new Government to have this achieved in the very first year of their administration. With these few words, I move the cut motion standing in my name."

* Mr. K. Koti Reddi :—" Mr. President, Sir, before I come to the question of the desirability of reducing the stamp fee both in general stamps as well as in court-fees, I would like once more to impress on the Government the necessity of making a scientific study of the court-fee stamps. You are aware, Sir, that stamp fee is a means by which the Government gets revenue from various sources. In the matter of general stamps, it is a question of taxing people who are able to pay. You tax certain transactions by means of stamps. If there is a transaction entered on an ordinary paper, it will not carry legal value. I do not see why it should not have the same effect as one entered into on stamped paper. It is because Government wants to realize some revenue by means of these transactions, because Government believes that people who are entering into certain transactions should be in a position to contribute to the general funds, and so you say that the document is not valid unless it is impressed on a certain stamp paper. So, so far as general stamps are concerned, the idea behind it is to make some money out of these transactions. That is admitted by all. But the same considerations do not apply in the case of court-fee stamps. Court-fee stamps are demanded for filing suits and petitions in courts of law, because it is realized that Government is not in a position, and probably ought not to administer civil justice for nothing. I will rather put it this way. The administration of justice is one of those essential services for which the Government can legitimately charge for the service it is rendering. That is a view which will be admitted by all without demur in the matter of the administration of civil justice. I do not believe the same considerations will apply with regard to the administration of criminal justice. The other day when we were on the general discussion on the budget, the Hon. the Law Member, I believe, seems to have just suggested that you cannot think of these departments apart, as administration of civil justice and administration of criminal justice. He went beyond that and said that this department of stamps has incurred heavy losses during the last three or four years. I do not believe the Hon. the Law Member has caught the spirit behind my observations. What I said was that the Government ought not to make any profit out of the administration of civil justice. I never said that this department should not be administered without any loss. But the administration of criminal justice stands altogether on a different footing. It is an essential service for which the Government ought to pay or rather the general tax-payer should bear the cost of the administration of criminal justice, whereas for the administration of civil justice it is not proper that the tax-payer should be made to pay. At the same time, I am bound to say that it is not proper for the Government to make a profit out of it. The income that you derive from the court-fee stamps ought to be only so much as is necessary for meeting the expenditure for the administration of civil justice. That is the

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distinction that I want to draw the attention of the Government to. I do believe it is a self-evident proposition. It is a proposition which every civilized Government will accept, namely, that the Government ought not to try to make any profit out of the administration of civil justice. If my Hon. Friend, the Law Member, agrees with me, it follows that in the matter of the administration of criminal justice the Government ought not to make a profit, or rather be paid for it. This is also an evident proposition because the Government is not making any profit out of the police department but is paying for all the expenditure. Then, the administration of criminal justice is another department, the charges of which the Government ought to bear. Taking that self-evident proposition, I will now come to the question whether the Government is not really making any profit out of the administration of civil justice. Many a time I have asked for figures, and I do not believe that I have yet been supplied with the necessary information on this question. To the best of my knowledge I shall try to give the figures, and it is not an easy matter to separate expenditure between administration of criminal justice and administration of civil justice, because most of the officers that administer criminal justice also administer civil justice. So far as I am able to make an investigation into the figures that are available from the memorandum and the civil budget estimates, I may state that even to-day the Government is making a profit of not less than Rs. 50 lakhs. If I am wrong, I should like to be corrected. As I prefaced my speech, I would like this matter to be treated as a scientific proposition. It is in that way I want the Government to approach this question. These are the figures that I have taken from the civil budget so far as it is possible for me to separate one from the other. On page 26 of the budget memorandum, you find that the total income out of the sale of judicial stamps, in other words, court-fee stamps, is Rs. 135·57 lakhs for the year 1934–35. I have taken the year 1934–35 because we have the actual accounts for that year, and the figures for 1935–36 and 1936–37 are only budget estimate figures and not actuals. Thus, you find the income from the sale of court-fee stamps is Rs. 135·57 lakhs. Out of this you have to deduct certain charges. The first charge will be charges for the sale of stamps, which is Rs. 1·14 lakhs, as taken from page 42; then the cost of stamps supplied from Central Stores is Rs. 82,000. From that account we have to deduct the share of the cost of superintendence. The total cost given on page 42 of the budget memorandum for superintendence for stamps is Rs. 24,000, out of which I have taken about Rs. 15,000 for court-fee stamps."

The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu:—" What is Rs. 12,000 for? "

* Mr. K. Koti Reddi:—" It is Rs. 15,000, the share roughly for court-fee stamps of the expenditure for superintendence of stamps."

The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu:—" And Rs. 82,000? "

* Mr. K. Koti Reddi:—" Rs. 82,000 is the cost of stamps supplied from the Central Stamp Office. So the net income out of court-fee stamps

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12-45 p.m. will come to Rs. 133·46 lakhs. From that I have deducted a sum o 2·91 lakhs as share of the copy stamps supplied in connexion witl criminal appeals and petitions. The income from stamped copy paper comes to about 9 lakhs. I shall take one-third of it for criminal wor which will come to 2·91 lakhs. I may then take into account th income from the administration of justice, namely, 1·75 lakhs as th court-fees realized in cash (vide Memorandum, page 30 and Civi Budget Estimates, page 34). Then, translation fees in the High Cour comes to 1·89 lakhs. From that I deduct four thousands as the cos of sale of printed judgments in criminal appeals. I will put the whol thing at 3·60 lakhs as the sum to be added to the 130·55 already men tioned. So the income out of the civil administration of justic altogether comes to 134·15 lakhs. This is derived in the shape o conrt-fee stamps which ought to go to meet the expenditure on adminis tration of civil justice.

" Then we come to apportion the expenditure between civi administration and criminal administration with regard to High Court, Sessions Court and other courts. Here the real difficulty comes How are you going to apportion it? From my experience I hav calculated in a certain way. The office ought to be in a position t supply me with more accurate figures and I will be very glad to receiv them. As I have said I am very much interested in working it i a scientific way. With regard to High Court the expenditure is 12·6 lakhs as seen on page 58 of the memorandum. I think it would be bu fair if you would apportion something between one-fifth and one-fourt for criminal work. Then for civil administration alone the High Cour incurs an expenditure of 10·13 lakhs. Then there are the Law officers the Advocate-General and the Solicitors. That expenditure ought t be entirely borne by the Government and not charged to the civi litigant. Then I come to Administrator-General, that is Rs. 33,000 I have included it, but I am not able to find out whether the fee charged by the Administrator-General are included or not in th income. I would rather err on the side of Government and woul put this at Rs. 33,000 as expenditure on civil administration. The Presidency Magistrates; that is 1·22 lakhs. I have to omit i altogether because it is a matter of criminal administration. Unde High Court I have thus included 10·46 lakhs in total. Then we com to Civil and Sessions Courts. The expenditure as given in the memo randum on page 58, is 62·58 lakhs. From this I have allotted some thing like 17·2 lakhs for administration of civil justice. In all thes items, I believe, I am erring on the side of Government. This is ho I have arrived at the figures. The pay of Sessions Judges, Sub-Judge and Munsifs is worked out as 18·72 lakhs, from which I have deducte 1·52 lakhs for the share of criminal work of Sessions Judges whose pa comes to 5·21 lakhs. Of course, in certain districts like the Cede districts, the Sessions Judges are engaged most of the days, about 20 t 25 days, in sessions cases. Taking the whole Presidency I have pu one-third to one-fourth as the share of the criminal work done b the Sessions Judges, and the rest goes to civil justice. That is, th entire salaries of Munsifs and Sub-Judges and Sessions Judges come t

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17·2 lakhs. Besides salaries of high officials, other expenditure incurred is 43·86 of which five-sixths, i.e., 36·55, will be the share for civil justice. Thus the civil justice in High Court comes to 53·7 lakhs. For the Court of Small Causes I have put the figure at 1·51 lakhs. Criminal courts I have omitted altogether. So the whole of this expenditure comes to only 65·67 lakhs. You may deduct 2 or 3 lakhs this way or that way. Then we come to expenditure on pensions. As shown above, the salaries that are now incurred by judicial officers in the administration of civil justice are 65·67 lakhs. I have calculated the salaries of all officials and menials at something like 840 lakhs roughly, from the Civil Budget Estimates. Some time ago, I don't remember exactly when, one of the Finance Members stated that the cost of the salaries of the provincial administration came to something like 6 crores. Now it has gone up to 8½ crores. The whole expenditure on pensions comes to 68·45 lakhs. A proportionate share of the pensions for civil justice will be about 5 lakhs. Then there is one other item which I am not quite prepared to include in this, namely, buildings. That is not easy to calculate. According to my calculation, 21 lakhs is the cost of High Court and other Courts in Madras, because in those days the cost of High Court buildings according to my information came to 15 lakhs and in spite of opposition from this Council the Government have spent something like 6 lakhs on Small Causes Court and the total has come to 21·5 lakhs. The twenty-five sessions courts I have put at 30 lakhs. The old buildings cost not more than 1 lakh but the new buildings have cost more than a lakh each. Then the sub-judges' courts. Of course the Government pay a rent for some. There are about 35 sub-judges' courts and I have put in Rs. 20,000 per building. It comes to 7 lakhs. Then 150 munsif's courts at Rs. 10,000 each come to 1·5 lakhs. So according to my calculation the cost of the buildings for the civil administration of justice is about 60 lakhs. I put the life of a building at 50 years. I know the sessions court in my district has lasted 100 years and it is in perfectly good condition. But seeing the sort of buildings constructed in modern days I will put their life at only 50 years, and there also I err on the side of Government. Then 4 per cent interest on that comes to 2·4 lakhs. For depreciation I put down 1·2 lakhs. For repairs and other charges, 1·4 lakhs. In all, these come to 5 lakhs. So, according to my calculation, the whole thing, salaries, pensions and buildings, will come to 75·67 lakhs. The income that the Government has derived from the sale of court-fee stamps is 134·15 lakhs. The net income according to accounts of 1934–35 is therefore 58·48 lakhs. More than once I have pointed out this to Government. They said that my calculations are not correct. But they won't give me the correct figures in a more detailed form, so as to satisfy me. So what I say is, if Government is going to say 'this is one form of taxation, we are poor, we want to tax the litigant for administration of justice,' then let them say so openly. I won't quarrel with them. But if the Government says that the purpose of realizing the court-fee is to meet the expenditure on administration of civil justice, then it is their bounden duty to find out in a scientific manner whether we are incurring any loss on it or making any profit. I am not in favour of Government

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losing; nor making any profit. I am not in favour of the general tax-payer paying for the litigants. But I may go to the extent of saying that a slight loss on the administration of civil justice may be incurred. I know from experience that in the Ceded districts there is more criminal litigation and it is better to attract them to civil litigation as far as possible and wean them from having recourse to criminal courts. From this point of view it is desirable that even if the Government incurs some loss they ought to make civil administration as cheap as
.m. possible. One more word, the figures I have given are taken from the accounts of 1934–35. Government during the last year has its income reduced by about 10 lakhs under court-fee. I see no reason for its mounting up hereafter. On the other hand there is every probability of its going down. But it ought not to be an argument for the Government to say that because income under court-fee is reducing itself, they are not making profits and hence cannot reduce court-fee. Supposing the Government say that they are not making profits, even then I would say that it is possible to reduce court-fee, if only they reduce the costliness of the administration charges. If they adopt this remedy, the expenditure could be reduced and the stamp-fees could be reduced in proportion.

" The income made by the Government by the sale of general stamps is also gradually going down. At this rate, in the course of a few years the Government may have to be prepared for reduction of income under this head. The creditors, thanks to the insolvency law—apart from the Debt Conciliation Bill which may or may not come into effect—are now coming to a sort of amicable settlement with the debtors by getting deeds of sale executed for larger sums than the real value of the lands sold. But these things may not last long. In about two or three years all that will stop and there will not be many fresh transactions to derive large stamp duties.

" With these few words, I once more appeal to the Government, with the help of its staff, to work out figures to see if they cannot make civil justice as cheap as possible. It is unmoral if not immoral to make money out of the dispensation of civil justice."

* Khan Bahadur MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB Bahadur:—" Mr. Deputy President, I also wish to make a few observations in connexion with this Demand. It may be that the Hon. the Law Member will get up and say in the end that the chief burden of the song is only reduction of taxation and that it cannot be agreed to. He said last year that so long as the course of administration is not interfered with, there should be no objection to the reduction of stamp duties to the former level. The previous speaker said that the Government admitted last year that they are making a profit out of the administration of justice. It was then admitted that this is a source of income. I believe it is wrong to treat it like that. Are not the Government levying land-tax and other general taxes? Why are they levied? Is it not their duty to see justice is administered free? How can they say that they would make justice a saleable commodity and make money out of it. We have been saying all these years that it is wrong to do so and yet the Government have not heeded either because they are indifferent to the

difficulties of the people or because they are only anxious to carry on the administration somehow or other. If it is indifference or apathy on the part of the Government that has to be condemned. They must have sufficient imagination to see that it is wrong to tax again for justice those people whom they have subjected to land and other forms of taxes.

" Sir, I may also mention the fact that by reducing the duty on judicial and non-judicial stamps the income of the Government will not be reduced. I know that in several cases, on account of these high duties, due to the inability to meet them, the litigants compromise their cases foregoing part of their claims. If stamp duty is reduced it is certainly possible that more suits will be filed and more income will be forthcoming. If in some such way relief is given to our ryots, I have no doubt that there will not be many cases of attachment of movable properties for failure to pay land-tax and also arrest under the Revenue Recovery Act as the one that was brought to the notice of the House some time back. If the Government were to reduce the stamp fees it would be possible to needy people to raise money on mortgage. As it is, supposing a gosha lady has to borrow Rs. 100, she has to pay for the attendance of the sub-registrar, registration fee, stamp fee and so on and these fees may even mount up to about half the sum she wants to borrow. The Government should enable poor people at least to mortgage their properties to meet the demands made by the Government themselves. I do not know why they should be indifferent even to this aspect of the matter, and why they should be unbending and uncompromising like a machine. I compared this attitude of the Government to that of a donkey some time ago; but although I was misunderstood then by the Hon. Law Member (laughter), yet his Colleagues sitting by his side explained and pacified him. I made that comparison because that animal refuses to move in the direction desired if it does not like. In the same way the Government, viz., the system, is unbending; but it must be possible for Hon. Members composing the Government to adjust the system and come to the rescue of the people. The present system is going to be soon amended, but I do not know whether, even after the Reforms, it would be sufficiently elastic to enable people to get relief. I support the motion and conclude by appealing to the Hon. the Law Member to give some relief in the matter of the stamp duties."

* Mr. M. DEVADASAN:—" Mr. Deputy President, I have time and again pressed upon the attention of the Government the need for giving some relief to the litigant population by reducing the fees on stamps, judicial and non-judicial. It would not be difficult for the Government to go back to the rates prevailing in 1922. In the past the price of articles went high and the stamp fees were raised to the present rates to meet the conditions then prevailing. But now that the prices of commodities have fallen, some modification of the rates of stamp fees is called for.

" My hon. Friend, Mr. Schamnad, said that justice is being sold. It is a fact that justice has become very costly. People find it very difficult and sometimes impossible to file suits at the proper time on

account of want of funds for buying the necessary stamps. There are many cases where, for lack of funds for filing suits, people have allowed their claims to become time-barred.

1-15 p.m. "They have to spend money not only for stamps but also for other purposes such as going to courts, paying pleaders, paying gumastas and so on and so forth. It is desirable that we should take into consideration all these items of expenditure likely to be met in the matter of obtaining justice. So I appeal to the Hon. the Law Member to reduce the cost of judicial stamps if he cannot see his way to reduce the cost of non-judicial stamps. The copy stamp paper used to be sold at 2 annas each in 1922. Now it is being sold at 3 annas. I request the Hon. the Law Member to see that it is reduced to 2 annas. I hope he will accept this suggestion without any objection.

"I must thank the Government for the kindness which they have shown to the depressed classes by issuing a Government Order whereby the members of the depressed classes were appointed as stamp-vendors. The predecessor of the present Hon. Law Member was kind enough to pass that Government Order and since then a number of persons belonging to the depressed classes have been appointed vendors of stamps in the mufassal. This system must be extended to this city also. In the mufassal stamp-vendors are getting only commission, whereas in this city the stamp-vendors are paid men. I understand that they belong to other communities than the depressed classes. So I appeal to the Hon. the Law Member to see that some of the depressed class people also are appointed stamp-vendors in the city. With these few words, I resume my seat."

* Mahboob Ali Baig Sahib Bahadur:—"By saying that the Government are working the department at a loss, I do not think that the implication is that they want to work the department at a profit. The facts and figures quoted by my Friend, Mr. Koti Reddi, from the budget of 1934 and also from the budget estimates of the current year seem to refute the statement made by the Government that they are working the department at a loss. If you take criminal justice it may be that the expenditure exceeds the income. But there is no justification for the Government to look into the matter from that point of view. When we are dealing with civil justice, there is no reason why the civil litigants must pay for the expenditure incurred in administering criminal justice. It may be that it is not possible to separate the two items of expenditure, viz., the expenditure incurred on civil justice and that incurred on criminal justice. But in order that the House may be satisfied and that the outside people may be satisfied, it is necessary that the Government should prepare a statement showing the actual expenditure incurred on civil justice and criminal justice respectively. My view of the matter is that as far as criminal justice is concerned, it must be met from the general revenues of the country because a man cannot be said to be going to a criminal court, and defending himself as a matter of luxury. In the case of civil justice it is a luxury for the people. A man goes to a civil court of his own accord and pays for it. My submission is that unless the House is

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satisfied from the statement that may be prepared by the Government, that the expenditure incurred for the sake of civil justice falls short of the income derived therefrom, I would strongly urge, Sir, that the income derived from civil justice should not be utilized for meeting out criminal justice. No sufficient reason has been adduced for not reducing the stamp duties, at least in civil cases. Government made a solemn promise that they would reduce the stamp duty and unless they make out a very strong case now as to why they cannot do so, I do not think the Government are justified in not reducing the stamp duty as promised in the past."

The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu:—"Will the hon. Member be pleased to state when the promise was made?"

* Mahboob Ali Baig Sahib Bahadur:—"I think it was in 1922. I also remember that two or three years ago when your predecessor was in office it was quoted chapter and verse to him and it was also brought to his notice and he admitted that such a statement was made. If necessary, after lunch I would look into the relevant portions of the proceedings of this Council and furnish references to the Hon. the Law Member . . ."

The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu:—"I shall be very glad if the hon. Member does so. The hon. Member will please read the reply that I gave last year . . ."

* Mahboob Ali Baig Sahib Bahadur:—"Of course interpretations may differ.

"Moreover, I wish to draw the attention of the Government to some anomalies in the Court Fees Act and it is quite necessary that the Act should be amended. I wish to refer to one or two points concerning this. In the case of suits for mere injunctions or suits for declarations with ancillary reliefs or mere declaratory suits the client is allowed to have his own value and pay the court-fee thereof. And naturally he pays stamp duty according to his own valuation. It may be Rs. 10, Rs. 50, or Rs. 100. In the case of declaratory suits there is a fixed court-fee of Rs. 15, if the plaint is filed in the Munsif's Court and Rs. 100 if the suit is filed in the Subordinate Court. It is these injunction suits or declaratory suits with ancillary reliefs or mere declaratory suits that occupy most of the time of the courts. Many of the other kinds of suits as, for instance, pro-note suits do not take much of the time. It is these injunction suits or declaratory suits asking for reliefs or mere declaratory suits that take up most of the time of the courts and from the point of view of time spent in hearing those suits, the stamp duty imposed upon them is very much low. Whereas in the case of pro-note suits, from the point of view of the time spent upon hearing such suits, the stamp duty imposed is very great. In the case of pro-note suits sometimes they are not even contested. In some other cases, the cases are decided *ex parte*. Suits are sometimes compromised. In all these cases the court-fee is not remitted. A revision petition on which only 12 annas stamp duty is imposed takes a lot of time of the High Court because questions of law have to be discussed. That takes a long time, one day, two days or more. I am bringing these

anomalies to the notice of the Government to show how unevenly th litigants are taxed, so that these things may be taken into considera tion and something may be done by way of amending the Act to d away with those anomalies and also to see that the litigants are taxe on the basis of time which their respective suits take for being hear and decided. Of course it may be argued that it may not be possibl to judge what time a suit will take for being heard and decided. Wha I submit is that it may roughly or approximately be fixed. Fo instance, if a case is decided *ex parte* because the defendant is absent the court-fee charged might be remitted. So also in the case of money suits. While on the other hand if the case happens to be an injunctior suit or a mere declaratory suit where questions of title and all sorts of things are involved, I do not see why such suits should be taxed less. With these few words, I support the motion moved by the hon. Member."

The House then adjourned for lunch.

After Lunch—2-30 p.m.

Mr. Mahboob Ali Baig rose to speak.

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—" Has not the hon. Member finished his speech before lunch? "

* MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB Bahadur:—" No, Sir. The Hon. the Law Member took exception to a statement which I made this morning. With your permission I just want to quote the authority for the statement I made."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—" I do not know what the hon. Member wants to do now, for I am unable to hear him."

* MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB Bahadur:—" Sir I made a statement this morning that Government promised to reduce the court-fees as soon as possible in the year 1922. The Hon. the Law Member took exception to this statement and said that it was not true. I would request you to give me an opportunity to quote the authority for my statement. In 1922 during the discussion of the Court-Fees (Amendment) Act, this is what the Hon. the Law Member (Mr. K. Srinivasa Ayyangar) said while objecting to the amendment that the increased court-fees should be in force only for one year:—

' If, for instance, we get into a flourishing state, it will be the duty of the Finance Committee to suggest a reduction of the court-fees on the side of revenue, and I for one, Sir, would be extremely glad to accept that proposition if we are in a position so to reduce it. I have not the slightest doubt that the Hon. the Finance Member will also agree to it." (Page 2749 of Council Proceedings, dated 13th March 1922.) '

" Before that statement there is another statement to the effect that during that year the expenditure exceeded the revenue and that that was the justification for increasing the court-fees. Now, Sir, the question is whether we are in a flourishing state now and secondly whether the expenditure has exceeded the revenue under this head. We heard this morning the speech of the hon. Member, Mr. Koti Reddi, in which he refuted the argument on the side of the Government to the effect

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ıat Government is suffering a loss from the administration of civil ıstice. In a sense there is a loss. But if we confine ourselves to civil ıstice alone, as Mr. Koti Reddi pointed out, there is no loss; there is a ıin of Rs. 60 lakhs. Therefore my submission to this House is that om the point of view of Mr. Koti Reddi in this matter—and that is .e right point of view—there is no loss from civil justice. There is › deficit for the Government to make good by increased court-fees. gain, Sir, it cannot be said that so far as civil justice is concerned are not in a flourishing condition. We are really in a flourishing ndition; we are making up more than what is necessary for the ministration of civil justice."

Diwan Bahadur M. Gopalaswami Mudaliyar:—"Mr. President, r, the Hon. the Law Member must be aware that there is a unanimity opinion in the legal profession that court-fees and stamp duties are ›w telling very heavily on the litigant public. Probably the Gov-nment are under an apprehension that if they reduced the court-fees, ey might lose a considerable amount of revenue. But from my expe-ence—and I believe my experience is pretty long, it extends over forty ars—I may submit that if they reduced the court-fees they would t more revenue. People are now afraid of going to courts on account the heavy court-fee. This is a point which I would very much like e Government to bear in mind. If they will only explore the various ırces to meet the necessary administration charges and give this relief the ryots, it will be most welcome. This is the suggestion I would ıke to the Hon. the Law Member."

Sriman M. G. Patnaik Mahasayo:—"Mr. President, Sir, I cannot ree entirely with my hon. Friend, Mr. Gopalaswami Mudaliyar, when says that if the court-fees were reduced, the Government would get ›re income from that source. But one thing is certain. At present the court-fees are heavy, many people try to file suits *in forma uperis*. If the court-fees are reduced, the number of such suits will crease and in that way the Government will get more revenue. So as the pauper suits are concerned, if the plaintiff succeeds the vernment are able to realize the stamp-duty. But if the suit is missed altogether, it becomes very difficult for the Government to lize the stamp duty which the court invariably orders to be paid a pauper suit. So far as I know, most of the appeals are dismissed cause the people try to prefer appeals *in forma pauperis*, but the court es not accept the appeals *in forma pauperis*. The people are called on to pay the court-fees and as they are not able to pay, the appeals not proceeded with. The number of appeals is reduced and in it way the income of the Government is reduced. If the Government luce the court-fees, the income under this head will be much larger. request the Government to take these things into consideration. regards the larger question that has been raised, namely, whether Government are not really getting from the court-fees a surplus over at is necessary for the administration of justice, my hon. Friend, . Koti Reddi, has raised the question and the Government are going meet his arguments. I do not want to say anything further on the nt."

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* The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu :—" Mr. President, Sir, the
-45 .m. discussion on the cut motions this year has more or less taken the same trend as it took last year and in the years before. It is the same hardy annual that civil justice should not be made a source of profit, as they called it, or as a source of revenue and that the State should so manage as to recover from the litigants as court-fees only such sums as would pay the cost of the civil administration.

" Then there was the other hardy annual, namely, that a promise was made at the time when the Bill was passed in the year 1922 and that the promise has not been kept up. Then there were a few minor matters raised by my hon. Friend, Mr. Nachiyappa Gounder and others regarding the cost of copy stamps. I think, Mr. President, it will not serve any purpose to repeat the answers which I gave last year. To take for instance the first charge that a promise had been made, I would remind hon. Members of the speech made by my distinguished predecessor, Sir M. Krishnan Nayar, in which he clearly and unequivocally repudiated the idea of any promise. My hon. Friend from Bezwada quoted the speech of another distinguished predecessor of mine, the Hon. the Law Member at the time when the Bill was passed; but in doing so, my hon. Friend here ignored two big ' ifs ' one with which he started and the other with which he ended. My hon. Friend here forgets those two big *ifs*. He stated ' if we were in a flourishing condition.' I do not know what authority my hon. Friend has got to say that we are in such a flourishing condition just now as to be able to reduce the fees in this respect. Apart from it, the very circumstances in which that statement was made make it clear that there could not have been any such promise as is sought to be introduced into that speech. That speech was made in the course of replying to an amendment to the effect that the Act of 1922 should be only a temporary measure and not a permanent one. The Government opposed the amendment and the amendment was defeated. What does it mean? Not only the Government at the time but the very Legislative Council itself did not want that the measure should be a temporary one. How are the two consistent? If a promise has been made, it would mean that it would be a temporary measure. But where an amendment to make it a temporary measure was lost, I do no think it stands to reason to say that there was any promise made.

" Now, Mr. President, I will turn to the more important question raised by my hon. Friend, Mr. Koti Reddi. I appreciate, if I may, the very great care which he has bestowed upon the speech and the great trouble that he must have taken in preparing the figures which he presented to us. But I must confess, Sir, that I have been provided with figures which do not tally with his; nor would it serve any purpose here for us to discuss these figures and point out which of them are correct and which of them are not correct. In fact, the basis upon which each has started is different from the other. The only solution that I would suggest is this; perhaps if my friend and myself sit together, compare the figures and discuss the basis on which we have proceeded, then there may be some possibility of coming to an understanding. But may I tell this House that this basis has been the subject

of discussion on various occasions by committees appointed for the purpose and eventually the Government of India dropped the idea of making any attempt at all in this direction on the ground that it was almost impossible. That is quoted in the report of the Taxation Committee in paragraph 335 and onwards. This is what they have stated:—

'In 1886 an elaborate enquiry was instituted, which was not completed till January 1890, when the Government of India issued a resolution in which they pointed out that the calculations were extremely intricate, and that, notwithstanding the labour that had been bestowed on them, the result could only be considered to be approximately correct, there being clearly in some cases an underestimation of the charges. The result, for what it was worth, went to show that in Bengal there was a surplus which amounted to 14¾ lakhs; in Madras the receipts and charges were practically equal; and in all other provinces the charges were much in excess of the receipts. In 1914, the question of repeating the enquiry was raised by a question in the Imperial Legislative Council, and the Government of India replied that the calculations were troublesome and complicated and that it was not worth while to embark on it. In 1924 the Civil Justice Committee, after examining the figures given in the reports of the administration of civil justice, condemned the figures given as meaningless or erroneous.'

I do not know whether any enquiry by ourselves would lead us to a better result. The matter is so very complicated and difficult. However if my hon. Friend is keen on it, I have no objection to place my services at his disposal in trying to solve what at present seems to be almost impossible of solution. Be that as it may; my hon. Friends started on the theory that this is not a source of revenue to the Government; they said that they should not make a profit out of it; the Government should just adjust the cost of civil administration to the revenue that might be derived from court-fees and the like. Now, Sir, that again is a very controversial subject. As has been pointed out by the Taxation Committee itself this controversy has been going on from the time of Bentham and Mill. There were those who held that dispensation of justice should not cost the litigant anything at all. This principle is mainly observed in criminal cases. There were those again who stated that the very fact that a man comes to a court of law—the indulgence of litigation as they called it—is itself a sign of the taxable capacity of the people and therefore he should be taxed and there is nothing wrong in getting from these litigants more than what is actually required for judicial administration. In our own country, attempts have been seriously made at various times to find out not only what the cost of this administration would be but also the basis as to whether it should be regarded as a tax or as a mere fee for services rendered. Hon. Members will surely admit that this form of taxation is certainly not on a par with services rendered by the Railways, Posts and Telegraph departments. There of course it is open to a man to take advantage of that service or not. There is some difference between the two. Be that as it may, there is one strong circumstance which for our purposes at any rate concludes the question and that is this. When the Act of 1922 was passed it was passed as a source of revenue and not to meet the cost of the civil administration. My hon. Friend, Mr. Mahboob Ali Baig, referred to a statement made by a Member of this side of the House to the effect that the increase of court-fees was being made because money

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was wanted for the purpose of meeting the expenses of the civil courts. You will find there are two important reasons which place the case beyond all shadow of doubt. One is, at that time when the Council raised the court-fees, they also raised the duty on general stamps. You cannot by any stretch of imagination say that the duties on general stamps were increased for the purpose of meeting the cost of civil administration in this country. That is one reason. A strong reason still is there, if you just look at the Statement of Objects and Reasons of the Bill itself. You find it at the very beginning of the Statement of Objects and Reasons when the Bill was introduced. The object of the Bill is to provide additional revenues for the Presidency in order to remove part of the existing deficit in revenue receipts. I do not think there can be any more explicit or unequivocal statement than that. You find it clearly and definitely stated. It is not at all correct to say that court-fees were increased in the year 1922 because civil administration was not paying. Really I do not see any reason why any distinction should be made between fees paid by litigants and any other source of revenue.

" One hon. Member used the language that we are selling justice. Because we are collecting fees from school boys in various schools, one may as well say, if that logic is correct, that we are selling education to our children. For the Educational department, for maintaining so many schools, for the supervision of schools not maintained by the Government, the Government have been spending lakhs and lakhs of rupees, nay, crores of rupees. Where is the money to come from? Certainly not from the school fees. Nobody would expect that the fees collected from the boys in the various schools would be sufficient to pay for the expenses of imparting education in this country. Moneys must be found from somewhere else; where can it come from? Is it from the land? Is it the idea of hon. Members that land should pay for all these? That is not admitted at all. Hon. Members have repeatedly stated that land alone should not be asked to pay for everything that is required for the upkeep of the Government in this country. If that is so, I really fail to understand any point being made out of the theory that the income from court-fees should not be treated as revenue or as a tax but as mere fees for services rendered.

.m. " Well, Sir, having disposed of these theoretical questions, I shall now proceed to meet a few points which have been raised by other Members.

" My hon. Friend, Mr. Nachiyappa Gounder, wanted more stamp-vendors; in fact he would like to have one stamp-vendor for an area within a radius of three miles. I am afraid, Sir, that almost every alternate man that you meet in the village will have to be a stamp-vendor, if that is accepted. I am perfectly willing, and I stated so last year, to admit that if any case is brought to my notice or for the matter of that, to the notice of the District Magistrate or the District Collector, every endeavour will be made to supply the needs of any locality which is feeling any inconvenience in obtaining stamps

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in that area. I think that ought to satisfy my hon. Friend. Again, I promise to him that I would certainly see that stamp-vendors are appointed in such places, if the matter is brought to our notice.

"Then, Sir, my Friend wanted that stamps should be issued to the stamp-vendors on the credit system. He is under the impression evidently that there is not that system at present. Such a system does exist even now. In the case of persons who are willing and ready and who are capable of furnishing security to the extent of the amount of court-fee or general stamps supplied to them, Government are perfectly willing, and have been adopting the system, to give stamps on credit. If the hon. Member should suggest that in any particular place any stamp-vendor was not supplied, certainly the case will be enquired into.

"My friend again wanted that stamps of all denominations should be supplied to these men. Hon. Members are aware that beyond a certain amount—that is the value of the stamps—there will be no commission given to stamp-vendors in the mufassal. I think the limit is Rs. 100 or so The result is that the stamp-vendor himself is unwilling to obtain stamps of higher value, because before he could get them, he should either pay down the money or should give security to the extent of their cost. He is unwilling to purchase stamps for the sale of which he is not entitled to get any commission. Another point that I mentioned last year in this connexion and which I repeat now is this: the accumulation of stamps in the hands of stamp-vendors has proved in the past to be a source of danger. It was the custom at least in some parts of the northern districts for stamp-vendors to keep very very old stamps. If a stamp-vendor had sufficiently long service, perhaps, he would have in his hands stamps even of the year 1890 or 1891. In civil suits, documents of an older age will have greater value. For instance, if thirty years had passed, they do not require a proof, and they are presumed to be genuine. Sometimes they go further and even titles are based on documents said to have come into existence at a time when the registration law was not in force. The result was that a number of false documents of both these kinds had been filed in courts, and it took all the wisdom and the capacity of the District Judge or of the Sub-Judge (Mr. G. Rameswara Rao: 'and pleaders') and pleaders as well, to discover whether the documents were forged or genuine ones. The accumulation of such documents should therefore be avoided as far as it is possible, and I do not think that it is very wise to leave large quantities of these stamps—whether they be general stamps or court-fee stamps—in the hands of stamp-vendors. But that is not to say that they won't be provided with the required number or amount of stamps. As a matter of fact, I do not know how the difficulty has arisen. As far as I am aware, in the districts with which I am acquainted, no such difficulty has ever been felt. Occasionally when the courts reopen and when there is a rush for the filing of plaints and appeals, sometimes, as I said, some difficulty is felt, but within a few hours or at the most within a day or two, the treasury supplies the stamps and the difficulty is got over.

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" My Friend Mr. Devadasan was telling us that litigation is going down, that in these days of depression the poorer classes are finding it very difficult to carry on litigation. I admit that the depression has certainly affected the poorer classes, but it has also affected every other class in the country including Governments. He further added that these poor people had to pay their pleaders, pleaders' clerks, their travelling allowance to go from one place to another, etc., but I may say at once that these are not due to any increase in the cost of court-fee stamps. They had been there ever since litigation began; people had to go about from one place to another, take advocates to the courts, pay not only their advocates but also their clerks, etc. There is however one point which he raised, viz., the question of copy stamps. I quite see that in the case of the poorer people, copy stamps are costing a bit more than they used to do; but it will be remembered that the increase in the cost of these copy stamps was due to a particular reason. It is this: at the time the increase had to be made, a great demand was made for an increase in the pay of copyists, and their pay was raised to about Rs. 30. Formerly perhaps it was Rs. 20 or so. It was agreed then that the increase in pay should be met from the increased cost of these copy stamps. Formerly, the copyists were being paid about 1 anna 4 pies commission, but it was raised to As. 2, and then there was also the fee to be paid to the superintendent. It will be clearly seen therefore that Government did not make any profit out of this.

" Well, Mr. President, I have almost finished; I have one word more to say. Let not my speech be in any way understood to indicate that I am not sympathetic with the speakers or with the people who have been really suffering on account of the increase in the cost of these stamps. As I told you last year, so long as the general revenues including this are not seriously affected, an internal adjustment could be made, so that any inadequacy in one case and overcharge in the other, could be adjusted in such a way as to remove oppression where oppression exists and to charge more where people are charged less. I have heard complaints not only here but elsewhere. During my tours in the districts, Bar associations have urged upon me the need for reduction in the cost of litigation and court-fees. A weekly journal of law published in Madras has taken upon itself to raise a controversy over this matter, and in fact to carry on a campaign—I do not blame the editor of that journal; that there is discontent, that there is inconvenience and heaviness felt by the litigants and by the legal profession, I am prepared to admit; but, as I told you, it is impossible to reduce the total revenues In an advancing society as I believe we are, the needs of mankind will be growing day after day. To reduce services that are being rendered to society by the State would be going backward, not progressing. These increasing needs require increased money. Where are we to get it from? Supposing we sacrifice a bit of revenue in one corner or other, the other services are not going to stop on that account. Are you going to reduce your expenditure on education? Are you going to reduce your expenditure on agriculture? What is the service which you are going to stop or reduce? It

is all very well here to say 'introduce prohibition and reduce four crores of rupees.' It is equally easy to say 'reduce 25 per cent of the land-tax which comes to about two crores of rupees.' Two plus four comes to six crores out of a total of sixteen crores. Is it possible in the nature of things to reduce such a large amount, and in addition to that Rs. 50 lakhs of stamp revenue? These are the revenues that we have got; they are not very expanding revenues; and yet, if you are going to cut at every stage, you will have to stop some service. I will ask the question of hon. Members, what service is it they are going to cut? Or where are they going to stop in such cuts? Is it consistent with an advancing or progressing society? Are you not thereby reducing the amenities which it is the duty of a State to supply to its citizens? These are the questions which will have to be considered carefully before these cuts are made.

"Sir, in this matter, the hon. the Finance Member's promise to you on the day he presented the Budget was that he would see that a survey was made of the financial position of the province; and I hope that he will allow me to have this subject of court-fees also included in that survey. When all these questions and criticisms will be examined by the departments, and if it is possible to make any reduction in court-fees in any particular direction, certainly, Sir, I shall do my level best to see that it is done.

"One hon. Member was telling us a little while ago that there are cases in courts in which much time was being occupied for minor suits; and there are also cases in which the stamp duty is heavy, but which do not take up more than an hour or two. I am perfectly aware of them; I know a suit of Rs. 10,000 on a promissory note may be disposed of in one hour and that a declaratory suit under the Specific Relief Act where full stamp duty is not paid may take days and days together. Then again, there are cases under the Court Fees Act where perhaps a partition suit which ought to have been filed in a district court or sub-court, is filed in a munsif's court with a smaller fee. These are matters which certainly require consideration, and I shall be glad to use my endeavours to see that these questions are examined and a readjustment is effected without loss of revenue to the Government, at the same time, with great convenience and equal burden to the litigant public.

"Sir, I have nothing more to add."

* Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder:—"Mr. President, Sir, the main issue of my cut motion is to see that the stamp duty is reduced, but from the way in which the Hon. the Law Member has spoken, even though he said that he was not unsympathetic towards this question, his speech clearly showed that he is not for any reduction in stamp duty. So I am obliged to press my cut motion." 3 p

The cut motion was put and lost.

The main Demand was then put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND IV—FOREST—RESERVED.

* The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu :—" Mr. President, Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I beg to move—

' that Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 31,33,200 under Demand IV—Forest—Reserved.' "

* Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder :—" Sir, I beg to move the cut motion standing in my name, namely—

' to reduce the allotment of Rs. 31,000 for Forest—Reserved—General Direction—Pay of Establishments by Rs. 100.'

" Sir, at the outset itself, I wish to observe that the forest administration of Government is such that the people are being put to the necessity of complaining bitterly often-times. The Government should therefore bestow their attention sufficiently to see that the people are not put to any difficulty in regard to this matter. In speaking on this problem of forests I would urge that Government should come forward and give as much concession as they could possibly give to the ryot population who are badly in need of such help.

" We shall first of all take into consideration the acute necessity which the ryots feel in the matter of grazing facilities for their cattle. We find, Sir, that the rates of grazing fees have been increased time after time and at present it is at a considerably higher level and it is but necessary that the ryots should demand a reduction in those rates. Here again, I think, the Hon. the Law Member may raise the question that we again propose a reduction in the revenues of this Province and that it would not be possible to think of that at the present moment. But, the Government must take into consideration the exceptional circumstances obtaining at the present day and see how things can be best adjusted with the revenue which the ryots will be able to pay without much strain on their part. In other words, the Government should adjust their expenses to the present-day taxable capacity of the ryot. Yesterday, during the discussion of the Land Revenue Demand, the question of salary cut has been raised. The Government may well take up the question here and see whether it could not be reduced to some extent considering the fact that it was at a very low ebb some 15 or 20 years ago and was raised by leaps and bounds in recent years. I think in this way, Government may see their way to have the expenditure reduced. At the present moment in view of the sad plight of the ryot population it is necessary that Government should come to their rescue by reducing their burden of taxation by all possible means. Again, coming to the question of fodder for the cattle, I may tell the Hon. the Law Member, Sir, that the ryots in some parts of my district are even taking to palmyra leaves for want of any other thing. I think it is the same case with many other districts also. I understand that in the Ceded districts too this difficulty is keenly felt. When such is the case, if Government would reduce the rate of fees for grazing, it may induce the ryots, even if there are not forests in their vicinity, to go to other forests where they can get the grazing facilities. It is therefore quite necessary that Government should move in this direction and do some tangible help to the agriculturists.

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"There is yet another policy of the Government which needs to be criticized and that is in regard to their policy of reserving forests which have not been reserved for a very long time and thereby causing great inconvenience to the people in those localities. Here I may give one instance to the Hon. Member and that is in regard to a forest in my district. In the taluk of Harur, there is a forest which is now called Pallipatti Extension Reserve and which was freely open to the ryots in those areas consisting mostly of a community called Malayalis —not the people of Malabar—but the age-long residents on the hills in the vicinity. They are a very ignorant sort of people and their life entirely depends on their cattle and the small area of cultivable land available to them. For the use of these people and their cattle there was some forest area left over for free use, but attempts were made in the past on various occasions by the department to bring that forest under reservation. Knowing the attitude of the department, the people there made representations on some one or two occasions to the District Collector and to the Forest Settlement Officer—the gentlemen who were occupying the places then—and by their sympathy and consideration they have been able to get the area left to them without being reserved. But unfortunately, I think, Sir, in the year 1926 or 1927, attempts were made by the Forest department (The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu: 'When was that disreserved?') It was not disreserved. It was kept for a long time without being reserved, but it was reserved in the year 1926 or 1927. Unfortunately, people do not know the fact and perhaps they did not put in their objections in time. The department took the opportunity and had that forest reserved and the result is that people are groaning under the difficulty of not having sufficient grazing facilities for their cattle besides being penalized by the Forest people at all hours. In this area as well as some other places in this taluk, I am told that the forest limits run very close to patta lands and dwelling places causing very many difficulties to the people inhabiting those areas. I have had occasion to put questions in this behalf to the Hon. the Law Member and I even waited on him in deputation with some of the ryots of this area and represented their grievances to him and I believe, Sir, this matter is still engaging the attention of the Hon. Member since no order seems to have been passed yet. Now, I would request him to look into the matter and see that the difficulty of the ryots is removed by throwing open the forest to them as existed of old. My information is, that it is not after all a rich forest to yield any great revenue to the Government and I think, Sir, the Government will in no way be losers and so much so they may graciously come forward and say 'you better enjoy that area freely as you used to do.'"

The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu:—"May I ask the hon. Member what exactly it is that is wanted there to be done by Government. You are merely speaking of difficulties and things of that kind, but I do not catch what exactly is expected of Government in regard to the matter?"

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* Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER :—" This is a forest which has long been enjoyed by the ryots and should be given back to them for free and unrestricted use by disreserving it in view of the fact that the forest has been reserved only recently within a few years.

" Then, Sir, there is another matter which I wish to put before the Government and that is relating to the allowing of goats in reserved areas. It is true that the Hon. the Law Member has said previously that it was not possible to accede to this request. Of course, I too am not for admitting goats in all reserved areas, but they may consider that at least up to a certain limit, say, for about 500 or 1,000 yards from the border, they may admit such animals to graze. In this connexion, I may invite the attention of the Hon. Member to the fact that the animal goat is a very necessary item for the ryot for the purpose of manuring his fields. I do not know the circumstances obtaining in other districts, but as far as my district is concerned, I may say with authority, that almost all the ryots have got goats for manuring purposes. It is needless for me to emphasize that the manure of the goat is the most effective and the best and that is why most of the ryots are rearing this animal. Where there was large quantities of prickly-pear everywhere, there was not any great difficulty for finding pasture for these animals. But now thanks to the cochineal insects which have destroyed the prickly-pear altogether, the problem of finding grazing for the goats has become very acute and ryots are feeling the pinch of it very much now. It has become absolutely necessary for them to find some pasture grounds for these animals at every place. I would therefore suggest to the Government to think of the idea of allowing goats at least up to a certain limits in the reserved forests by so amending the rules. They may avoid further encroachment by keeping the rules rigid that the admission of goats beyond a particular limit in the forests would be liable to some stringent punishment. In that way they can safeguard the goats being allowed to proceed beyond the prescribed boundary. Anyhow, they should see their way to provide some sort of grazing facilities to these animals which are so essential to ryots. Of course, the Hon. the Law Member may say that goats cannot at all be allowed in forests where there are rich trees. I do admit it and understand the weight of that argument. But there are very many reserved forests especially panchayat forests which have no trees in them worth the name excepting some bushes. Even in such forests, as a rule, goats are not admitted. As a matter of fact, in these panchayat forests there is no precious tree-growth at all to be destroyed by goats and goats will not be able to cause any damage in these areas or consequent loss of revenue to the Government. In such cases too these animals may be admitted without restriction."

The Hon. Sir K. V. REDDI NAYUDU :—" Will the hon. Member mention those places where such panchayat forests exist? "

-30 p.m. * Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER :—" I shall presently mention one instance which I personally know of and that is the Suryamalai panchayat in the Tiruchengodu taluk of Salem district. I have seen

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that area myself and there is no tree-growth worth the name in that area and even there the goats are not admitted openly. But yet the goats are admitted secretly and the practice that is obtaining there is that a sort of mamool or unauthorized collections made on each head of goat by the forest panchayat people and this money goes to their pocket without offording any source of revenue to the Government.

"In this way, there is a lot of confusion in this panchayat and factious spirits are running rampant and elections were contested very vehemently and made to come up repeatedly from time to time. I think in other panchayats also such difficulties are existing and I would request the Hon. Member to see that the admission of goats in the panchayat forests are allowed. Then, Sir, take the question of the forest panchayats. As has already been stated by me in the area of the Suryamalai panchayat forest there are no trees worth the name; and not even any precious growth and so much so, it does not require any reservation at all because it has not been of any benefit to the people of the surrounding area to keep it reserved except for a few people to loot—if they come to power. The people of the villages in these parts are put to the necessity of finding free grazing places for their cattle and more especially for their goats. In that part of the country excepting this reserved portion the rest are cultivable lands. So I do strongly recommend that this panchayat forest should be disreserved and free grazing allowed to the ryots of these parts. I believe, Sir, similar contingencies exist with regard to the other forest and panchayatdars also and all such questions require to be examined and facilities afforded. Then I shall pass on to another variety of panchayat forest which will contribute cultivable lands. We shall take up the forest panchayat of Ramenapalli in Harur taluk of Salem district. With regard to this panchayat, I am told that it constitutes a good deal of cultivable lands and very many years ago all those lands were under actual cultivation. Owing to some reason or other they have been discarded and they are now kept reserved constituted into forest panchayats. I believe, Sir, there is good scope for cultivation there even now. So, I would like to urge that in this forest and in such other places the Government may take to assigning of lands to people who are in need of them and thereby derive some revenue. As it is, it serves no useful purpose because it has not any precious growth and is not at all needed in those localities. So, I would request the Hon. Member to examine the question and take to assignment of lands.

"Then, Sir, I may pass on to another matter which has been brought to my notice. That is with regard to the Mudumalai Forest bribery case of the Nilgiris district. I have put in questions in this affair to draw the attention about the unsatisfactory state of affairs and the iniquitous treatment meted out to some subordinates of the department. I am led to believe, Sir, that the treatment meted out to the various subordinates in that case is not at all justifiable if the gravity of the charges are taken into consideration. Those who appear to be at the bottom and on whom charges of a graver nature were framed were

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subsequently let off without being punished. But in the case of some who have been charged with comparatively lesser offences than the others, the maximum punishment of dismissal has been awarded. By referring to these, I may not be misunderstood to plead that people who commit offences should go unpunished. I am concerned with the meting out of proper punishments according to the gravity of the charges. I am also obliged to mention here that in certain of these cases the appeals which have been submitted to the higher authorities have not been dealt with in proper time as they have been held up by the District Forest Officer. On that matter also I have put some questions and got the admission of Government about the undue delay—I also learn that regular procedures also were not followed in the conduct and disposal of this bribery case. So, I request that the Hon. the Law Member will do well to take up such questions and see that proper justice is rendered and such sort of delays are avoided in future. With regard to this bribery case, I have already pointed out that punishments have been awarded not taking into consideration the strength of the offences committed but arbitrarily according to one's whims and fancies. I am obliged to make mention of this fact in order to invite the attention of the Hon. the Law Member so that he may call for the whole file, investigate into the question and see that the iniquity meted out to certain subordinates is removed and justice rendered. With these words, I move my cut motion and I hope the Hon. the Law Member will give a sympathetic view to all these matters and arrive at a satisfactory solution for each, possibly before he relinquishes his office."

* Mr. V. T. Arasu :—"Mr. President, in replying to the debate on the demand for stamps the Hon. the Law Member has made an earnest appeal to this House. He said: 'There is no use in merely suggesting that this or that item of revenue should be cut down. As responsible men you should at the same time suggest also sources of revenue by which the deficiency or the reduction in revenue can be made up and readjusted.' Sir, I should like to ask the Hon. the Law Member as to what steps he has himself taken in that direction, in the Forest department during the time he has been in office. I find that in the year 1929 the revenue under forests was very nearly 64 lakhs. But to-day the revised estimate shows that they anticipate a revenue of 44·57 lakhs; and he has budgeted for a revenue of 43.27 lakhs in 1936–37. Against this revenue, Sir, if you take the expenditure of the Forest department, you will note that it has been going on increasing gradually. I think the Hon. the Law Member would admit when I say that this is a state of affairs which ought to be attended to with a certain amount of seriousness. From 1929 onwards the expenditure has gradually increased from 35 to 39.14 lakhs according to the revised estimate of 1935–36. What is this due to? In my opinion I think this diminution in the revenue from our forests is due to the fact that the forest resources are not properly exploited. I do not for one moment suggest that we must fell down all the trees in our forests without any consideration whatever for posterity. I will be the last to make any such suggestion.

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While we should conserve our forests, while no permanent harm should be done to the existing forests, we must at the same time devise ways and means to increase the revenue from the forests. By a casual perusal of the forest administration reports of Mysore and Travancore States I find that they are increasing their revenue from their forests. But it is surprising that the Madras Government should be getting decreasing returns. A small State like Travancore is getting a revenue of about 10 lakhs; and the neighbouring State of Mysore is getting about 21 lakhs out of their forests. What is it due to ? I would ask the Hon. Law Member to give an answer to that question. If the Hon. Gentleman, the Law Member is not able to answer that question, I would suggest, Sir, that the Hon. the Law Member would do well to appoint a committee of this House and of some experts outside to go into this question and suggest to the Government how best we can exploit the forest resources. Four or five years ago, in the course of his administration report, the then Chief Conservator of Forests pointed out that large quantities of sandalwood and tanning barks are being imported into this Presidency and that consequently the demand for our produce is fastly diminishing. I made enquiries into that matter, at any rate in regard to the demand for tanning barks. From the talks that I had with some leading tanners in the city, I understand that the quality of the tanning bark in this Presidency is in no way inferior to the Australian and South African product. If in spite of the fact that the quality of our bark is better and superior to the imported ones, our own tanning barks are not being purchased by our people, there must be something wrong. I would like the Hon. the Law Member to go into the question and I think the committee I suggested would do well to investigate the matter also. In the same way in regard to sandalwood also the committee should be asked to go into the question why when there is a great demand for Mysore sandalwood, why the sandalwood produced in our forests do not find an equally favourable market.

" Sir, there is a third way in which our revenues in the forests can be increased. I would like to draw the attention of the Hon. the Law Member to the fact that there are large stretches of forests which are mere shrubs and bushes and there is no point in including these shrubs in the category of forests thereby denying the use of those plots to the people living in the villages round about. Not only these lands can be made available to the people, but they can also be made to yield a large amount of revenue. With regard to how these can be made to yield revenue to Government, I have one or two suggestions to make. These lands with shrubs can be given on long-term leases for raising casuarina and bamboo plantation. I know vast stretches of so-called forests in the Chingleput district which are eminently suited for casuarina plantation. If only Government would be prepared to lease it for long periods there are a number of people prepared to take them up for casuarina plantation. This would be a source of considerable revenue to the Government.

" I should also like to suggest to the Government the establishment of a special department called the forest produce sales department.

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Both the Mysore and Travancore States have got special departments 45 m. which send out their forest products wherever public exhibitions are conducted; and they also periodically send out representatives to go to the various parts of India to find—rather create—a market for the products of their forests. In a similar manner, the Government of Madras should start a special department, called the forest produce sales department, so that that department may send out officers to interview people who deal in forest products and thus create a demand for them.

"There is one small matter regarding which I should like to take this opportunity to draw the attention of the Hon. the Law Member. I find in many of these reserved forests, there are what are known as forest roads. These forest roads are unfortunately not available to the public. I should like to suggest that some of these forest roads which connect important villages may be thrown open for public traffic; that is to say, the villagers may be permitted to use these roads to transport their produce. These forest roads are formed at enormous cost, and what is the use they are put to? Perhaps once or twice a year, these roads are utilized by the forest officers to go round for inspection, and at other times of the year, they are lying absolutely idle. We are spending thousands and thousands of rupees for these roads; why not allow the villagers to use these roads to transport their agricultural produce. I submit that by allowing the villagers to make use of these forest roads occasionally no serious damage will be caused to the roads.

"I should also like to draw the attention of the Hon. the Law Member to one particular grievance about a forest in the North Arcot district. There is a road called Gillman road running from Alangayam to Komitteri in the North Arcot district. It is a road about 14 miles in length running through a reserved forest. Until recently it was available to the villagers to transport their agricultural produce. But some six or seven months ago, that road was closed to public traffic. So, I would request the Hon. the Law Member to go into this matter and see that the rights of the villagers, namely, the right of carrying their agricultural produce through that road which is 14 miles in length are restored.

"I hope, Sir, the Hon. the Law Member would see his way to appoint, as I said, a small committee to go into these matters and see if the income from our reserved forests cannot be augmented."

* The MAHARAJA OF PARLAKIMEDI :—"Sir, I rise to support the Demand made by the Hon. the Law Member from the agriculturists' point of view. I am an agriculturist myself, and as such I think that all over the world and much more so in India and in this province especially the forests should be maintained in a good condition and reserves extended. All the Members of this House are aware that forests are of great service to agriculture in many ways, and without forests agriculture cannot prosper for any length of time. First of all, Sir, as we know, forests do serve as a great conservancy of moisture from the prevailing winds which are attracted by the heat of the land from the great seas. When rain comes down in torrents, if forests did not

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exist, there will be tremendous erosion taking place, and hill-streams, rivers and rivulets freely flowing will carry away all the water and also the soil lying before them. Apart from that, as we are aware, Indian agriculture is still at a stage when all implements of agriculture are made out of timber, and that can only be got from forests. Manure again, as we are aware, is a very important ingredient for the soil to encourage plant growth of every sort, and much more so of crops that require green manure that is available largely in our forests. If you did not have forests and reserves near at hand to the villagers, the agriculturists will be devoid of all chance of getting green manure and the advantage of securing alluvial deposits so necessary for their fields. In some areas the first rains and the first floods bring this indispensable ingredient to the fields. Of course, having forests too close to the cultivator's holding has its own disadvantages. It is no doubt harmful in certain ways and that is through the havoc caused by wild animals. But I am glad to say that the Government as well as private owners of forests do take care to issue free licences, so that these pests may be eradicated. One of my friends happened to suggest that goats may be allowed to brouse in the forests. That is the last thing you should allow if forests should serve the purpose for which they are intended and if agriculture is to thrive. Cattle grazing does no harm, and I very strongly advocate on behalf of the cultivators that all possible facilities should be afforded for cattle to graze in reserved forests. Because they do not cause any appreciable damage to the forests. Of course, to assure proper growth of forests prohibition of all sorts of grazing by animals may be necessary. But the fact remains that we in the villages have not been able to provide ourselves with the required amount of fodder by either allotting pasture land from the cultivable area or by reserving part of the unreserves for pasture purposes. When such conditions exist, the only possible alternative is that Government as well as private owners of forests should make available reserved forests for grazing purposes. Also I strongly urge that when there is great scarcity of fodder the department should see that fodder is cut and stocked and sold to the villagers at nominal rates just to cover the cutting and storing expenses.

" Sir, one other point I would urge is that out of the unreserves or out of reserved areas situated near the villages Government should always see that timber and building materials are made available to the people. We, private owners always take care to make available to the villagers such materials. The department also may follow the same practice and meet the needs of the villagers, because in the unreserves through the carelessness of the villagers there is no material available to speak of. When there are frequent fires in the villages, these villagers are practically destitute of all material necessary to rebuild their huts and houses.

" One other point, I would raise, Sir, is that in private properties where Forest Acts have been applied, Government should not hesitate to grant to private owners the same power as Government hold in their own forests of course with qualification as well as status necessary

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assured to hold those powers. I suggest that, for the simple reason that nowadays unfortunately in our parts there is a tendency for people to get into forests and cut them down indiscriminately, also question the authority of officers and to take the law into their own hands. When we are convinced that forests are absolutely necessary and that they are of immense help to the cultivators and the inhabitants of villages, it is but right that Government should initiate and the House should support legislation to protect the forests so as to conserve them in the efficient manner that is necessary. With these remarks, Sir, I do support the Demand made by the Hon. the Law Member, which is very necessary for the protection and maintenance of the forests in proper condition."

* Mr. G. Simhachalam Pantulu :—" Sir, as one coming from the hill tracts, a backward area as it were, I think I am bound to make some suggestions in the interests of the efficient administration of the Forest department. When Mr. Henderson, who is our Secretary to Government here, was the Collector of our district, there was a commission appointed, to which some members were nominated by the Board of Revenue, with a view to classifying the forest reserves in the district, so that some of those portions may be handed over to the village forest panchayats. Then, I strove hard to remove as much area as possible from the Government reserves and to bring it under the control of the village forest panchayats formed. Then, the District Forest Officer stood against my proposal and there was a big fight at every stage between him and myself. Unfortunately, owing to want of technical knowledge to assert that a particular portion in the forest reserve is m. really deserving of being retained as forest reserve or that a particular area is to be eliminated from the forest reserve, I did not succeed to a large extent. Anyhow, after the whole enquiry was over and the report submitted, a lot of area was disforested, but even this was not adequate to meet the requirements of each locality. I seriously object to the continuance of these forest panchayats. I request the Hon. the Law Member not to believe in the reports that the administration of the forest panchayat is satisfactory. I have got personal and intimate knowledge of my district and I have also got intimate knowledge of forest panchayats elsewhere and I am perfectly warranted in saying that none of them is satisfactory. I have got two objections and two suggestions. This election question is a great bother, and it is not possible for disinterested persons even to prepare voters' lists for cattle-owners. They don't publish their names; they do not call for objections; there is no returning officer; the rules are so very defective that it is absolutely impossible for any forest panchayat to prepare the electoral roll in any particular area. There is no remedy if permit is refused to any cattle owner. The rules do not provide for it. The number of cattle is also restricted. If there are 1,000 cattle in a locality the area opened is only for 600 and there is bound to be big fight between the cattle-owners and the panchayats. If proper arrangements could not be made to remedy the state of things, it is better to abolish the panchayat altogether or nominate some responsible persons in the

village and entrust the forests to them. For Heaven's sake, the present panchayats should not be continued. It is this question that has stirred the whole public in our district against the Government. It was only on the forest question that the non-co-operation movement was started. It was on this question that so much feeling was roused against the Government. So it is not a question that could be lightly passed over. The Hon. the Leader of the House may be pleased to examine this question and see if he can do anything in this matter. Let the expert examine it. Of course in places where the forest growth is thick and really beneficial to the public as suggested by the Raja Sahib of Parlakimedi, goats and other cattle should be disallowed. But are these forests deserving of being retained as reserves? For instance, sheep are disallowed from grazing in the forest area in my district. About a month back, when I went to several places they told me that sheep were prohibited from grazing in the forest. How are the shepherds to get on? We are all here to serve the needs of the people. Are we doing that? So I would respectfully submit that sheep be allowed to graze in these forests. I do not know what is happening in other districts. So I would earnestly urge on the Hon. the Law Member to give his personal attention to this matter and not be harsh to these illiterate folk who only want ordinary grazing facilities to be allowed for their cattle. I hope the Hon. the Law Member will remember about the abolition of these forest panchayats after careful examination. These areas are divided into a number of units and the panchayats cannot give permits to all. There is no guarantee that the voters' list is properly prepared. It gives rise to so many quarrels, there is a lot of correspondence to the Collector and the filing of objection petitions with regard to the elections.

" It will not be becoming on my part to criticize the internal administration of the Forest department. Yet, I do not want to leave it, because my attention has been drawn to one glaring instance where a forest subordinate with 20 years' service has sacrificed his son, 20 years old because he was a little harsh and a little too dutiful in the discharge of his duties. For some silly charges he was dismissed from service. Is that the sort of control the Conservator and the Chief Conservator are exercising? For some small wrong the man was necked out of the department. (The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu: What is his name?) His name is Sheik Adam, forest guard, Vinukonda Range, Guntur district. He has put in 20 years' hard service. All those people murdered his son, because he was very strict in the discharge of his duties. Even that point did not appeal to the local authorities. I should not be misunderstood when I say that this did not appeal to them. I did not say what sort of mentality they have.

" Another suggestion I wish to make is this. In former days we used to have communal porambokes in each and every village. Now the revenue officers are assigning lands on pattas to depressed classes and others. So in the villages, communal porambokes have become a

desideratum. Some facility must be offered to the villagers to graze the cattle free. This is a privilege which they have been enjoying from time immemorial. That you have removed."

The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu:—" May I know, when the hon. Member said that sheep were excluded from a certain forest, whether it is a forest where replanting was going on or is it an ordinary forest?"

* Mr. G. Simhachalam Pantulu:—" I do not know the details. I will be thankful for the information. One more suggestion and I am done, it is about assigning certain portion of the forest reserves on patta. In this I join my friend, Mr. Nachiyappa Gounder. There are certain areas which are fit only for cultivation and it would be profitable both to the State and the ryot, if cultivation is allowed thereon and I request the Hon. the Law Member to extend such facilities to the ryots who are in need especially in these days when it is not possible to make both ends meet."

The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu:—" My hon. Friend Mr. Nachiyappa Gounder's point was that the fringe of the forests should be disreserved with a view to allow cattle to graze in it. That is how I understood him and not for granting it for cultivation on patta to landless people."

Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder:—" I raised the question with regard to some of the forests; where no tree-growth is in existence, but which can be assigned to the ryots."

* The Deputy President:—" I think the Leader of the House will reply when his turn comes, most probably this evening or to-morrow morning."

The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu:—" It was I that wanted that information."

Mr. G. Simhachalam Pantulu:—" I do not want to weary the House and so I resume my seat."

* Mr. G. Rameswara Rao:—" I agree with the remark that the primary function of the Government ought to be to conserve the forests, to develop them and increase the national assets thereby. But I feel that some of the forests handed over to the panchayats are getting depleted, that the growth is diminishing year by year and no attempts are being made to improve them and conserve them for posterity. I also agree with the remark that the Revenue Department is not taking as much interest as they ought to in supervising these panchayat forests and they have no interest except to make the usual report in the routine way. There was a time when some of the Deputy Tahsildars used to supervise these panchayat forests, but I understand they have been since abolished and therefore no revenue subordinate is taking particular care to look after the forest handed over to the panchayats. That being so, the forest are getting worse day by day. Therefore, some steps must be taken to see that this state of degradation and denudation of forest is not allowed to continue and the nation put to a loss thereby. The usual routine in foreign countries which are more civilized and which

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are more eager to conserve all their assets is to spend lots of money on forest conservation and developing forests, and thereby add to the national assets. It is surprising to see that our Madras Government is not doing anything in that direction. They simply say ' We can't cut down any of the charges which we are incurring on other establishments or other departments ' but they have not been doing anything to improve our resources. My hon. Friend to the left has given statistics to show that the revenue from the Forest administration is getting less and less. That is a very deplorable state of affairs. And unless the Government satisfies us to the effect that conservation has been going on and further plantation has been taking place and some good asset is in store for us in the future I think that the department is not doing what it is expected to do.

" Then, Sir, as regards the retrenchment in the forest department, I may say there are very many ways which are open to the Government, only if they care to look into them. The Hon. the Leader of the House is very anxious to see that no retrenchment is made if possible in charges and demands and has shown no particular enthusiasm to extend concessions and licences to the public at large. As an instance of a case eminently fitted for retrenchment, I mention the Forest College. This college is consuming a very large amount of money. If I am not wrong the staff includes only four members and their expenditure comes to Rs. 48,000 per year. It is a very disproportionate expenditure; I cannot understand how one member and three assistants could be allowed to swallow so much of public funds. No other teacher or no other 4
professor or assistant in any other college of Arts and Sciences or Techni- P
cal subjects, is swallowing so much as the Forest College staff are doing. If the Hon. the Law Member wants me, a layman, to make a definite suggestion, I am quite prepared to do so. I have handed over to him a written memorandum in this connexion with a view to save the time of the House. I say that it is quite possible to cut down this Rs. 48,000 to nearly half of it if only proper steps are taken.

" Another complaint of mine is that most important subjects like mycology, entomology and geology are not taught in this college at all. It is these subjects that should be taught to our forest rangers and district forest officers who are to be the guardians of our forests. If these important subjects are ignored, I do not know how the guardians of our forests will be able to develop them later on. These subjects are taught in the Forest Colleges in England, France, Germany and such other European countries. How can they be ignored in our college if our future forest officers are expected to develop our forests? The staff may be economised and the services of our retired Indian Forest Service Officers may be utilized. These retired officers of ours are in charge of the Imperial Forest Institute in Oxford and the Forest Colleges at Oxford and Cambridge. If our Indian Forest Service Officers are found fit to be in charge of the premier forest colleges elsewhere, I do not know why their services are not requisitioned for service in India with a view to effect economies without detriment to efficiency. They can

be induced to accept, after retirement, a smaller pay. That will be another source of retrenchment in the administration of forests. I hope the Hon. the Law Member will see his way to save some money for the public by adopting these suggestions.

"Another thing I want to suggest is that as the Agricultural College and the Forest College are both situated very near each other, the teachers in charge of subjects like mycology, entomology, geology and botany may be made common to both these colleges and the costs may be divided between these two institutions. They may be allowed to hold the classes separately, or even jointly, as there are only 35 students in the Forest College.

"One other direction in which retrenchment can be effected is this: instead of throwing open the Forest College to everybody, I am not able to understand why it is kept as a close preserve for the 35 stipendiary students alone. There is no need for giving these stipends to the students. Moreover, the college-fee fixed for private students is something like Rs. 1,000. On this question, I put an interpellation and I was told that the fee is only Rs. 750 now. I wonder why it should be as much as Rs. 750 even? By reducing the college-fee for admission and by throwing it open to the general public, you can add to the streugth of it, earn more money and run the college economically."

The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu:—"What are we to do with them after they pass out of it?"

* Mr. G. Rameswara Rao:—"After they pass, there are zamindars like the Raja Sahib of Parlakimedi, the Raja Sahib of Bobbili and so on who can employ them. They have forests of their own to improve. I am not suggesting that the Government should find employment for them and they are not doing so now for those who pass out of other institutions. The Government need not worry themselves about it. Our duty is to prepare persons, who will be our future forest guardians thoroughly. Instead of giving stipends to students and inducing them to join the college, I think it is better that we throw the admission open to everybody and develop our science of forests, sylviculture and horticulture to the best extent possible.

"The Hon. Member in charge knows that some 1,500 applications were received for the posts of nine rangers, last year. That shows that there is really no need to show any encouragement to the students by way of stipends to take to the forestry course. Moreover, there is at present no degree at all in forestry here. You can institute a degree in forestry as you have instituted in the veterinary and the agricultural subjects. As I was saying, by improving the course of studies of the people who come out of the college and by turning out a larger number of forestry graduates, the Government will be doing a good service to the development of forests and the national assets of the country. Therefore, I suggest that this measure of retrenchment and development of the Forest College may be taken on hand.

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"On the question of grazing fees I had private correspondence recently, with the Hon. Member in charge. The grazing fees in Bellary and Anantapur are disproportionate. In Anantapur they are fifty per cent more than in Bellary. The Government are aware that Bellary as opposed to Anantapur is richer in pasture lands, because they imported last year all the grass from Bellary to Anantapur. In spite of that, Anantapur is charged fifty per cent more. This is very unfair and very disproportionate and there is no justification for charging this enhanced fee. The grazing rates in Chittoor also are less. I suggest that the Hon. the Law Member should look into the matter so that the district which is poorer in this respect gets its grazing fee reduced below that prevailing in the neighbouring richer districts. If he removes this grievance he will be earning the lasting gratitude of the ryots of my district."

Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari:—"Mr. Deputy President, Sir, I want to lay before the Hon. the Law Member certain grievances of my district.

"The grazing permit which is granted at present for one animal is for the whole range. After this fee is paid the animal is allowed to move and graze freely throughout the range. But where there is a panchayat, the matter is different. I have a complaint against the panchayat in this respect. It is not a complaint about the panchayat elections and so on which was voiced by one hon. Member. My complaint is about the grazing fee charged by them. Now, if a ryot takes a permit after paying Re. 1 for grazing his cattle in a whole range, if it happens to be a panchayat area, the poor ryot has again to pay for another permit for the same animal. There are various rates for various classes of animals. If once he pays to the panchayat, he has again to pay the same amount for the forest range. If there is no panchayat in the whole forest range, by paying this fee to one body, the animal can be allowed to graze freely throughout the range. Therefore, the existence of these forest panchayats has become a disadvantage to the ryots. I suggest therefore that some concession should be made in respect of the grazing fee in areas where there is a forest panchayat. If once a permit has been taken by an owner for his cattle in a panchayat area, and there is not sufficient fodder found there for grazing purposes, the owner should be given some concession, instead of being charged again in the usual course, to allow his cattle to graze in the forest range. The best course would be for the Government to insist on the panchayat not charging the same rates as the forest range. When once the difference between these rates is paid, there should be no objection to a permit-holder's cattle grazing either in the range or in the panchayat area. If this is not done, the people living in the forest panchayat areas will suffer and it is not advisable that the people should be made to feel that the introduction of this democratic system of forest management is not at all to their advantage.

"I wish now to refer to another grievance connected with grazing. For the purpose of allowing penning of cattle in the forest ranges which

is permitted for a fee of Rs. 5 per animal, the ranges are divided into three or four divisions. In respect of grazing, the permits issued cover the whole range; but in respect of penning, the area is very much restricted. Sir, what happens is that cattle go on grazing over wide areas within a range and cover sometimes a dozen miles and it is wrong to expect them to be driven back all that distance for being penned in the night. But if they are not brought back to the restricted area allowed for penning, the forest authorities charge them very heavily. To remove this difficulty, I suggest that instead of dividing a range into so many divisions for the purpose of granting penning licence, the whole range over which grazing is permitted, may be allowed to be used for penning cattle too. In the ranges subdivided for penning permits, water facilities are scarce and so it is very necessary that the area for the penning permit should be the same as the area for grazing permits, viz., the whole range.

"Another thing that I want to say relates to fodder scarcity in Guntur due to the want of seasonal rains. The Hon. the Revenue Member has seen the district and I have no doubt he will come to my rescue. I request the Hon. the Law Member to see that fodder is permitted to be taken by the ryots freely this year on account of the scarcity of it. There are certain coupes where they allow young trees to grow fenced all round so that the animals may not destroy them. Around such trees, grass grows to a height of three feet, but unfortunately, it is not allowed to be removed. I reqnest the Hon. Member to sympathetically consider the lot of the ryots of the neighbouring villages and allow them to cut the grass and carry it by headloads. Surely nothing would be lost by permitting them to remove that grass. It would not affect the forest area at all. If they cut any other thing, they can be penalized. But as long as there is no loss to the forest revenues, this might be allowed.

·30 m. "I will not take up more time of the House. I will finish in a minute or two.

"Another thing that I wish to refer to is that the forest authorities are penalizing the animals without any discrimination. Sometimes they penalize to the extent of even double of what the animals actually cost. For instance an animal may cost Rs. 5, and the penalty goes up to Rs. 10 or even more. I am not exaggerating anything. On several occasions the ryots are not paying the penalties at all. There are several instances like this in Guntur district. If the hon. Member is anxious to know definitely where these have taken place, I am prepared to submit the particulars to him separately. Supposing an animal enters a forest without forest permit, the forest authorities can penalize such an animal twenty times or ten times. The value of the animal may not at all be equivalent to the amount of penalty imposed. Therefore I suggest that the maximum penalty imposed should not exceed double the cost of the animal. I do not want to tire the patience of the House and I therefore request the Hon. the Law Member to consider these matters favourably."

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Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar :—" I think it is agreed on all hands that a proper consideration and development of a well-planned programme by the Forest department is a matter of first-rate importance not only from the point of view of augmenting the national wealth of the country, but also from the point of view of the agricultural and commercial activities of the land. Sir, I think that when the Madras Government first seriously took up the question of the development of forests in this Presidency these two-fold improvements in regard to the development of forests have been kept in the forefront, viz., in view of the preponderatingly agricultural nature of the country the forests of the Presidency must be made useful to the agriculturist, not merely to graze his cattle and to find fodder for them but also as a means of supplementing the manures. The main importance of the forests, so far as our Presidency is concerned, seems to me to rest upon the test whether that improvement has been achieved. Sir, looking into that question, we the Members of this House have times without number raised the question of the increased rates charged on leaf manure and grazing fees. And what do you find with regard to this necessity? So far as grazing fees are concerned, they have been increased during the last decade and a half to the extent of 50 or 100 per cent. So far as leaf manure is concerned, the same story is repeated and in spite of the fact that the agriculturist in our Presidency is passing through very straitened circumstances, no relief has been given to him. I would like to ask why the Hon. the Law Member, with his vision and his large sympathies to the agriculturists, has not chosen during the term that he has held this portfolio to give relief to the ryots and agriculturists in this Presidency. A previous speaker has stated that so far as grazing rates are concerned, there have been variations between one district and another and there has been no uniformity in the levy of grazing fees. I would ask the Hon. Member in charge very respectfully if this increased rate for leaf manure and grazing is one of the assets that has been introduced during the last decade and a half. Sir, the other purpose which the forests are supposed to serve is commercial exploitation and let us see whether, judged from that standard, the policy defined by the Madras Government a decade and a half ago has been fulfilled. No doubt in the Administration Report we find that there has been an increase so far as the supply of sleepers is concerned, but in the larger sense of that term, in my opinion, commercial exploitation of the forests has not been carried out to the fullest extent. If you look at the Administration Report for the year 1934–35, you will find that the income from forest exploitation is just barely 4 lakhs. Out of an expenditure of about 38 lakhs, 20 or 21 lakhs has been provided according to this year's budget by way of pay to establishments. I think the expenditure on salaries and the pay of establishments bears an unnecessarily large proportion to the entire expenditure on the forest side. Sir, I said commercial exploitation must take place and in this connexion may I offer a suggestion to the Hon. the Law Member, who is fortunately also in charge of the portfolio of Hydro-Electric schemes in this Presidency, that for the purpose of carrying hydro-electric

power from the power stations to the places where the power is consumed, the erection of a long transmission line is an absolute necessity. What do we find in regard to transmission lines in this Presidency? You find that all these transmission lines have been laid on steel turrets and steel poles. I may humbly point out to him the necessity of providing turrets and poles made out of wood and suggest that the Madras Government may seriously contemplate the carrying of these transmission lines upon timber and wooden posts. The Hon. the Law Member with his extensive foreign travels will remember that in several European countries the products of forests have been utilized for the purpose of carrying electrical transmission lines. So far as our Presidency is concerned, I have not seen timber at all being utilized for this purpose. I may also give the instance of the neighbouring States of Mysore and Travancore. In Mysore timber and wooden poles found in the forests have been utilized for the carrying of the transmission lines, and recently I was told that the Travancore Darbar has taken advantage of the example set up by Mysore and are trying to use timber for laying out the transmission line with timber felled down in their forests and it is shown that according to their calculation a sum of as much as 6 lakhs would be saved to the Travancore Government by reason of the introduction of timber instead of steel posts, manufactured either in this country, or imported mostly from foreign parts. That is one of the lines upon which the Hon. the Law Member may make enquiries and see whether he could not increase the forest revenues to that extent. As I said, it is somewhat curious why there has not been more income from the Forest department, and as has been suggested on various occasions on the floor of this House, the entire forest policy of the Government requires reconsideration and examination, not by self-opinionated experts who resent even the slightest interference with their opinions or orders but by a Committee of non-officials consisting of several hon. Members of this House who could bring the layman's point of view to bear on the Committee as well as Members of Government and their experts. In this connexion I would like to quote one or two instances of a parochial nature to show the unsympathetic attitude adopted by some officials of the department so far as my district is concerned. A few months ago, I had the opportunity of leading a deputation to the Hon. the Law Member with regard to grazing fees. What happened was this: in a certain area of the Forest department in the North Arcot district grazing fees for cattle were being levied. The Forest department divided that area into two subdivisions for their own convenience. But the department would still insist upon the owners of cattle who had taken permits to graze their cattle in that subdivision which has been created for the purpose of area to pay another fee for the purpose of grazing their cattle in that administrative convenience. There can be nothing more unsympathetic than that. Fortunately for us we have a Law Member, Sir, who took a sympathetic view of the matter and remedied the situation. Again, Sir, we have recently had another case in the same area which has been mentioned by the hon. Member sitting in the front bench, Mr. Arasu, viz., a road which was laid by a private owner of the land at his own

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cost, a road which was being used for the last 40 years not only by the contractors to bring down their produce, but also by the villagers residing on either side of the road. No doubt the Forest department made certain improvements to that road. But that will not take it away from the category of roads laid by the North Arcot villagers owning lands on either side of the road who had access to that road. Without giving previous notice to the cart-owners or the villagers and when there is no other way out for those people, access to this road was closed to them. This is again another instance of a very unsympathetic attitude adopted by certain officials of the Forest department who consider that any interference with their supreme command is a matter that has to be resented and put down with a strong hand. Whenever we come to this demand we feel that the hon. Member in charge leads us to the woods. I do not know either he or we see the wood for the trees and the johukums of the bureaucratic authorities presiding over this department. I hope the Hon. the Law Member with his sympathy ind administrative tact will make public opinion more and more felt 'n this department, so that they may take a sympathetic view, so far as our grievances, parochial though they may be, are concerned. With hese few words I support the cut motion."

* Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—"Mr. Deputy President, Sir, some ion. Members, particularly my hon. Friend, Mr. Arasu, have pleaded hat Government ought to make attempts to enhance the revenues of his department. Government did, no doubt, make attempts some time igo. They got down even experts from America and tried big commercial undertaking which unfortunately ended in a huge loss to them o the extent of as much as 35 lakhs. This failure however need not tand in the way of their making further experiments and further ittempts to enhance the income from this department. In view of the hortness of the time at my disposal, I shall confine my remarks to the etrenchments that can be effected in this department with a view to ave expenditure. It has often been pointed out that the cost of stablishments in this department in proportion to its revenues is omparatively more than it is in other Provinces. Large increases to he staff at the top have been made between 1918 and 1921, but during hat time this department was giving a large surplus income. It is dmitted that the department is top-heavy. The Hon. the Law Member n his reply to the budget debate last year said that Government admit we have perhaps more men than we need.'

"Government have been endeavouring to reduce the number of 4-45 ficers during the last ten or twelve years. They have reduced the p.m. umber of Indian Forest Service Officers from 57 to 51 and Provincial ervice Cadre Officers from 36 to 30 in the course of seven years, I find 'om the budget that this time we shall have four Deputy and Assistant onservators less and also two Extra Assistant Conservators will go. robably this is due to the formation of the Orissa Province. Still iere are about 46 Indian Forest Service Officers and 27 Provincial ervice Cadre Officers. Thus we have about 73 of these people. I iink that with 50 such officers it will be possible to run the department ficiently. The rest of the people can be offered inducements to retire.

[Mr. A. B. Shetty] [14th March 1936

" We have a European Imperial Service Officer as Personal Assistant to the Chief Conservator. In other departments the Personal Assistant is an Indian and a Provincial Service Cadre Officer. I do not see what the necessity is for having an Indian Forest Service Officer as Personal Assistant. The Hon. the Law Member may probably not be prepared to agree with me if I say that we can do away with even the Conservators that we have. These Conservators merely act as post offices. Our District Forest Officers can very well work under the Chief Conservator. We have assistants to the District Forest Officers in several of the districts, assistants who have little or no work to do. In South Kanara for instance, we have two District Forest Officers and one assistant. The work there can very well be done by one District Forest Officer without the help of any assistant.

" We have a Forest Utilization Officer—an Indian Forest Service man—merely for conducting sales of logs and sleepers. I do not understand why a separate highly paid officer is necessary for conducting sales of railway sleepers.

" In the Working Plans circle we have a Conservator and three Deputy and Assistant Conservators and five Extra Assistant Conservators. I do not know whether a separate staff is necessary for this purpose. Working plans for most of the areas have already been prepared and I believe this work will shortly be completed.

" In the Forest College we have two Indian Forest Service Officers and two Provincial Service Cadre Officers. I think the Indian Forest Service Officers can be replaced by Provincial Service Cadre Officers and a good deal of saving can be effected. I believe there are a number of supernumerary gazetted officers in charge of ranges because they have no other work to do

" Before concluding, Sir, I wish to make mention of one fact, namely, the forest grievances in South Kanara about which we have been making repeated representations to the Government both in this Council as well as outside. The Hon. the Law Member was good enough to visit our district in December last and see things for himself and to hear representations of the people, particularly of the members of the Landholders' Association. I am glad that he has been pleased to restore some of the concessions that had been withdrawn. He has allowed us to remove dry leaves and fuel from dead trees and branches and he has also given instructions to the effect that the taking of grazing permits should be voluntary and should not be compulsory. For this favour which he has done to us we are extremely thankful to him. We are of course not satisfied to the full extent, but we must be grateful to him for what he has done."

Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder :—" May I draw your attention, Mr. Deputy President, to the fact that there is no quorum in the House just now? "

* Rao Sahib V. I. Muniswami Pillai :—" Sir, forests are considered to be a great national asset for the country, but the use to which they

can be put especially by the poorer classes of the people is a thing which has to be carefully considered by any Government. Coming as I do from a district which is full of forests, I may state that the lot of the ryots there is a very hard and something substantial should be done at once by the department to grant the necessary facilities and benefits to the people. I know as a matter of fact that the people who live very near the forests are put to very many difficulties. For instance the last Administration Report shows there were 4,157 cases of unauthorized grazing while in the previous year there were 3,747 cases. Sir, owing to the failure of the monsoons and lack of facilities for getting fodder for the cattle, the people are driven to graze their cattle in these forest areas. They are penalized for doing so without taking the necessary permits. The penalty is often eight times the cost of the permit. For some years past I have been urging on the Hon. Member in charge of forests that some concession should be shown to the depressed classes. I find from the Administration Report that certain concessions have been given to the hill tribes. In my district the hill tribes are given permits for removing fuel from the forests for the payment of a rupee for the whole year. Such a concession is denied to the depressed classes. Sir, after the Indianization of the services, most of the people who were in the domestic services of European Officers could not find domestic service and therefore had to take to cattle-breeding and eke out their living by supplying milk. Unfortunately the cattle could not get the necessary fodder and the cost of the grazing permit is very high. As already pointed out by my hon. Friend, Mr. Krishnayya Choudari, the cost of a grazing permit, especially if it covers two subdivisions, is not as cheap as it ought to be. Now, Sir, the hill tribes are given cheap grazing permits and I urge that the same kind of concession should be shown to the other poorer classes. I would earnestly appeal to the Hon. the Law Member to see his way to extend the concession enjoyed by the hill tribes to the depressed classes also.

" Sir, when the Hon. Sir M. Krishnan Nayar was in charge of the portfolio of forests a suggestion was made to him that forest lands lying very near the towns should be alienated and given to the poorer classes for the purposes of cultivation. Of course the lands lying very near the towns are not utilized by the Forest Department; they are lying waste. But if people living near these lands remove leaf manure and fuel from these lands they are generally prosecuted. Moreover, Sir, the depressed classes who form the main bulk of the labourers in the towns near by cannot go to far off places to cultivate. If the Government see their way to disafforest these lands lying very near the towns and give them to the poor people it will go a long way to help them. As a matter of fact large tracts of lands have been assigned for the purposes of sports, such as for golf links and so on. Of course I have no objection to the giving of lands for such purposes, because generally they are well kept. At the same time, I suggest that such of the lands as are very near the towns and which are not used for these sports can very well be disafforested and assigned to the poorer classes.

[Mr. V. I. Muniswami Pillai] [14th March 1936

" Sir, one hon. Member who preceded me—I think it was Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar—observed that forest timber should be used for electric poles. In my own town which was the first to take current from the Pykara scheme, wooden poles were first used, but subsequently it was found that the poles had not the required strength and that they would be a source of danger. So the municipality itself removed those poles and used iron poles instead. Moreover, Sir, these poles carry the high-tension wires which supply large quantities of current to far off places and I do not think that timber will be suitable for that purpose.

" My hon. Friend, Mr. Nachiyappa Gounder, brought to the notice of the Hon. the Law Member the delay in the disposal of certain appeals from the forest officers. I put an interpellation in this House and brought to the notice of the Hon. the Law Member the treatment that was meted to some of the forest officers in the Mudumalai forest. Most of the people have been taken back either in the Revenue Department or in the Forest Department. But still there are a few who have not been taken back, especially one who has put in more than 15 years' service. I think his appeal has not yet been disposed of. The man is a family man and he is still suffering. I would earnestly appeal to the Hon. the Law Member to look into this matter and do something."

The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu :—" What is his name? "

Rao Sahib V. I. Muniswami Pillai :—" Marudachalam Pillai of Ootacamund."

" Of course, I have mentioned only a few facilities which the depressed classes need badly. I am sure that the Hon. the Law Member who has genuine sympathy for the depressed classes will kindly consider these points and afford the facilities asked for for the poor depressed classes."

The House adjourned to meet again at 11 a.m. on Monday, 16th March 1936.

D. K. V. RAGHAVA VARMA,
Acting Secretary to the Legislative Council.

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APPENDIX I.

[Vide answer to question No. 947 asked by Mr. M. B. Rangaswami Reddi at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 14th March 1936, page 251 supra.]

Statement showing the grants for village communications and rural water-supply works disbursed by the Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards during the years 1930–31 *to* 1934–35 *and the reasons for the lapse.*

(i) Village communication.

Name of district.	Grants disbursed.				
	1930–31.	1931–32.	1932–33.	1933–34.	1934–35.
	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	
Anantapur ..	1,219	570	823	1,123	No allotment was placed at the Inspector's disposal.
Arcot, North ..	3,549	1,803	1,202	1,902	
Arcot, South ..	3,033	829	1,203	15,220	
Bellary ..	279	1,088	401	..	
Chingleput ..	992	1,629	1,453	2,112	
Chittoor ..	1,104	81	1,171	2,140	
Coimbatore ..	3,434	2,340	1,238	2,199	
Cuddapah ..	..	..	189	..	
Ganjam ..	..	..	..	446	
Godavari, East.	23,629	29,540	27,708	23,847	
Godavari, West.	85,525	39,299	49,548	58,956	
Guntur ..	48,095	32,741	43,173	40,654	
Kanara, South	13,719	7,890	7,601	10,777	
Kistna ..	7,437	11,455	7,572	7,251	
Kurnool ..	..	..	..	148	
Madura ..	..	..	..	1,155	
Malabar ..	..	..	..	..	
Nellore ..	480	..	628	1,403	
Nilgiris, The ..	..	..	..	8,953	
Ramnad ..	3,151	2,173	4,647	2,789	
Salem	4,138	7,786	2,867	875	
Tanjore ..	5,377	3,398	1,722	1,679	
Tinnevelly ..	369	1,621	591	163	
Trichinopoly ..	574	429	2,605	2,005	
Vizagapatam.	956	84	1,048	276	
Total ..	2,02,060	1,44,756	1,57,390	1,86,013	
Allotment sanctioned.	2,05,000	1,50,000	2,50,000	2,50,000	
Surrenders ..	..	..	50,000	50,000	
Net appropriation.	2,05,000	1,50,000	2,00,000	2,00,000	
Amount lapsed.	2,940	5,244	42,610	13,987	
Reasons for the lapse.	Payment orders to the extent of Rs. 2,872 remained uncashed at the end of the year.	Payment orders to the extent of the lapsed amount remained uncashed at the end of the year.	Bills to the value of Rs. 18,010 were received on 31st March 1933 and could not be passed for payment in that year. The lapse of the balance of Rs 24,600 was due to the fact that an additional grant of Rs. 1 lakh was sanctioned by Government very late in the year.	A grant of Rs. 8,483 lapsed owing to receipt of bills on the last working day of the year and Rs. 5,504 lapsed on account of non-check measurement of work by local fund Assistant Engineers.	

(ii) Water-supply.

Name of district.	Grants disbursed.				
	1930-31.	1931-32.	1932-33.	1933-34.	1934-35.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
Anantapur ..	288	69	1,222	1,660	1,486
North Arcot ..	3,297	626	122	2,372	4,780
South Arcot ..	1,107	1,022	91	2,039	2,625
Chingleput ..	297	788	..	1,938	925
Chittoor ..	1,216	818	1,186	2,067	522
Coimbatore ..	..	418	458	647	692
East Godavari.	22,679	5,912	9,556	14,986	5,189
West Godavari.	20,376	14,695	6,583	28,485	5,584
Guntur ..	13,155	7,373	9,721	5,075	4,980
Kistna ..	11,718	10,747	8,200	5,155	3,452
South Kanara.	427	637	88	877	1,723
Kurnool ..	172	..	..	132	..
Madura ..	47	703	71	1,541	..
Ramnad ..	7,309	1,815	453	1,392	774
Salem	16,737	20,595	4,289	989	876
Tanjore ..	16,705	12,062	6,209	6,628	5,133
Tinnevelly ..	3,037	827	657	2,570	1,531
Trichinopoly ..	1,461	5,548	8,832	11,380	1,976
Vizagapatam ..	136	..	77	..	837
Cuddapah ..	68	382	..	..	..
Bellary ..	..	555	1,650	..	890
Nellore ..	..	..	362	832	125
The Nilgiris ..	..	..	..	960	..
Total ..	1,20,232	85,092	59,737	92,325	44,100
Grant placed at Inspector's disposal.	1,50,000	1,00,000	1,10,000	1,25,000	50,000
Amount lapsed.	29,768	14,908	50,263	32,675	5,900
Reasons for the lapse.	Panchayat boards failed to carry out the works in accordance with their undertaking.	Panchayat boards failed to carry out the works in accordance with their undertaking.	Reasons for lapse are due to the late allotment of grant in December 1932.	The lapse is mainly due to the non-check measurement of works by the Engineers in time and also to the receipt of bills on the last working day.	The lapse is mainly due to the non-utilization of the provision for petty supervision and contingencies, the actual cost of the work falling short of the estimate amount, unsteady finances of the panchayat, seasonal conditions, non-availability of labour and non-check measurement of works by the Engineers in time.

APPENDIX II.

[Vide answer to question No. 955 asked by Mr. G. Rameswara Rao at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 14th March 1936, page 260 supra.]

STATEMENT A.

THE MADRAS ELECTRIC LICENCE, 1905.

1. *Maximum prices which may be charged for energy supplied by the licensees under the licence.*—Where the licensees charge any consumer by the actual quantity of energy supplied they shall be entitled to charge at the following rates:—

(a) *For energy used for lighting purposes only.*—For each unit the sum of As. 8 only provided that, if in any month the value of the supply to any consumer at the rates actually charged

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does not amount to the equivalent of one anna per lamp installed on the consumer's premises (irrespective of the candle power), the licensees may charge a sum not exceeding that amount.

(b) *For energy used for power purposes.*—For each unit the sum of As. 4 only.

(c) *For public street lighting.*—For each unit the sum of As. 2–6 whether in the compulsory area or any extensions beyond the same.

2. Where the licensees charge any consumer by the electrical quantity contained in the supply given to him, they shall be entitled to charge according to the rates set forth above, the amount of energy supplied being taken to be the product of such electrical quantity and the declared pressure at the consumer's terminals, that is to say, such constant pressure at those terminals as may be declared by the licensees under the rules of Government for securing a regular, constant and sufficient supply of energy.

3. Where the licensees charge any consumer (otherwise than by agreement) by some other method approved by the Local Government they shall be entitled to charge at such rates as the Local Government may determine on approving that method.

Explanation.—The term " unit " means 1,000 watt-hours.

THE MADRAS PORT ELECTRIC LICENCE, 1909.

1. (a) *For energy used for lighting purposes only.*—For each unit the sum of As. 8 only, provided that, if in any month the value of the supply to any building at the rates actually charged does not amount to the equivalent of one anna per lamp installed on the premises (irrespective of the candle power) a sum may be charged not exceeding that amount.

(b) *For energy used for power purposes.*—For each unit the sum of As. 4 only.

2. Where the licensee charges by the electrical quantity contained in the supply given the licensee shall be entitled to charge according to the rates set forth above, the amount of energy supplied being taken to be the product of such electrical quantity and the declared pressure at the consumer's terminals, that is to say, such constant pressure at those terminals as may be declared by the licensee under the rules of Government for securing a regular, constant and sufficient supply of energy.

3. Where the licensee charges (otherwise than by agreement) by some other method approved by the Local Government, the licensee shall be entitled to charge at such rates as the Local Government may determine on approving that method.

Explanation.—The term " unit " means 1,000 watt-hours.

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THE MADRAS CANTONMENT ELECTRIC LICENCE, 1910.

1. Maximum prices which may be charged for energy supplied by the licensee under the licence.

Where the licensee charges by the actual quantity of energy supplied, the licensee shall be entitled to charge at the following rates:—

(a) *For energy used for lighting purposes only.*—For each unit the sum of 8 annas only provided that if in any month the value of the supply to any military building at the rates actually charged does not amount to the equivalent of one anna per lamp installed on the premises (irrespective of the candle power) the licensee may charge a sum not exceeding that amount.

(b) *For energy used for power purposes.*—For each unit the sum of 4 annas only.

(c) *For street lighting.*—For each unit the sum of As. 2–6 only.

2. Where the licensee charges by the electrical quantity contained in the supply given it shall be entitled to charge according to the rates set forth above, the amount of energy supplied being taken to be the product of such electrical quantity and the declared pressure at the consumers' terminals, that is to say, such constant pressure at those terminals as may be declared by the licensee under the rules of Government for securing a regular, constant and sufficient supply of energy.

Explanation.—The term " unit " means 1,000 watt-hours.

STATEMENT B.

—	Rates as originally approved in the licences granted to the Madras Electric Supply Corporation.	Rates as enhanced in 1919.	Rates as reduced in 1933.
(1) Lights only ..	8 annas per unit.	..	5½ annas per unit.
(2) Lights and fans on a combined circuit.	4 annas per unit.	5 annas per unit.	4 annas per unit.
(3) For energy used for power purposes.	4 annas per unit.	..	Rs. 8 per mensem for each K.V.A. of maximum demand plus one anna per unit of energy consumed less 10 per cent *subject to a maximum over-all rate of 2 annas per unit.*

THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF THE GOVERNOR OF MADRAS.

Monday, the 16th March 1936.

The House met at eleven of the clock, Mr. President (the Hon. Mr. B. *Ramachandra Reddi)* in the Chair.

PRESENT:

Reddi Nayudu, *Kt.*, The Hon. Rai Bahadur Sir K. V.
Pannirselvam, The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T.
Souter, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., I.C.S., The Hon. Sir Charles.
Bracken, C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S., The Hon. Mr. G. T. H.
Raja of Bobbili, K.C.I.E., The Hon. the.
Rajan, The Hon. Mr. P. T.
Kumaraswami Reddiyar, The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S.
Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur.
Ahmed Meeran Sahib Bahadur.
Alagannan Chettiyar, Rao Sahib A. S.
Alamelumangathayaramma, Mrs. K.
Annamalai Chettiyar, Mr. S. A. A.
Appadurai Pillai, Diwan Bahadur A.
Arasu, Mr. V. T.
Basheer Ahmed Sayeed Sahib Bahadur.
Basu Dev, Mr. C.
Boag, C.I.E., I.C.S., Mr. G. T.
Dalavoi, Mr. R.
Devadasan, Mr. M.
Dharmalingam Pillai, Rao Sahib V.
Duraiswami Reddiyar, Mr. K. M.
Foulkes, Mr. G. F. F.
Gopalaswami Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur M.
Halasyam Ayyar, Mr. N.
Harischandrudu Nayudu, Mr. A.
Indrayya, Mr. C.
Iswaran Pillai, Mr. I. C.
Jagannatham, Mr. H. M.
Jayaram Nayudu, Rao Sahib C.
Jones, I.C.S., Mr. C. E.
Kesavaramamurti Nayudu, Mr. K.
Khalif-ul-lah Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur P.
Kolanda Reddi, Rai Sahib C.
Koti Reddi, Mr. K.
Krishnayya Choudari, Mr. P. V.
Krishnamurti, Rao Bahadur D.
Kumararaja of Venkatagiri, The.
Kuppuswami Choudari, Mr. J.
Madanagopal Nayudu, Mr. R.
Mahboob Ali Baig Sahib Bahadur.
Manikkavelu Nayakar, Mr. M. A.
Moidoo Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur T. M.
Moses, Mr. P. C.
Muhammad Meera Ravuttar Bahadur, K. P. V. S.
Muniswami Pillai, Rao Sahib V. I.
Nachiyappa Gounder, Mr. K. A.
Nadimuthu Pillai, Mr. A. Pl. N. V.
Nanjappa Bahadur, Rao Bahadur Subadar-Major S. A.
Narasa Reddi, Mr. T.
Narayanan Nambiyar, Mr. V. P.
Natesa Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur C.
Obi Reddi, Mr. C.
Palat, Mr. R. M.
Patnaik Mahasayo, Sriman M. G.
Patro, K.C.I.E., Rao Bahadur Sir A. P.
Peddi Raju, Mr. P.
Pocker Sahib Bahadur, B.
Premayya, Mr. G. R.
Rajagopala Pillai, Mr. P. V.
Ramachandra Padayachi, Mr. P. K.
Ramakrishna Reddi, Mr. A.
Ramalingam Chettiyar, Diwan Bahadur T. A.
Ramalinga Reddi, Mr. C.
Ramamurti, Rao Sahib Pandit Ganala.
Raman Menon, Mr. K. P.
Ramaswami Ayyar, Mr. T. S.
Rameswara Rao, Mr. G.
Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. A.
Ranganatham, Mr. N.
Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur C. S.
Ratnavelu Thevar, Mr. P.
Reid, Mr. D. M.
Rukmani Lakshmipathi, Mrs. A.
Russell, I.C.S., Mr. T. B.
Schamnad Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur Mahmud.
Scott Brown, I.C.S., Mr. W.
Shetty, Mr. A. B.
Simhachalam Pantulu, Mr. G.
Siva Raj, Rao Sahib N.
Sivasubrahmanya Ayyar, Mr. K. S.
Smith, Mr. J. M.
Soundara Pandian, Mr. W. P. A.
Sreshta, Mr. M. S.
Srinivasan, Rao Bahadur R.

PRESENT—*cont.*

Sriramulu, Mr. G.
Subbarayan, Dr. P.
Subrahmanya Bhatt, Mr. U. C.
Sundara Rao Nayudu, Mr. T.
Syed Tajuddin Sahib Bahadur, Khan Sahib.
Thangal, Mr. P. M.
Uzielli, C.I.E., I.C.S., Mr. H. R.
Vasudeva Pillai, Mr. V. G.
Vedachala Mudaliyar, Rao Sahib M.
Venugopal Nayudu, Rao Bahadur R. K.
Wright, Sir William.
Yahya Ali Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur.
Yakub Hasan Sahib Bahadur.
Zamindar of Bodinayakkanur, The.
Zamindar of Kirlampudi, The.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS

Prisons and Prisoners

Petition for conditional release from Amir Hyder Khan, a State prisoner.

* 956 *Q.*—Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT: Will the Hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that Amir Hyder Khan State prisoner now in Rajahmundry jail is ill and has been reduced by about 30 or 40 lb. in weight;

(*b*) whether he has petitioned the Government that he is willing to be released on conditions and that he may be released; if so, will the Hon. Member be pleased to place a copy of the same on the table of the House; and

(*c*) what action have the Government taken or propose to take in the matter?

A.—(*a*) The Medical Officer, Central Jail, Rajahmundry, reported on the 6th February 1936 that the State prisoner's weight had increased from 101 lb. on 16th November 1935 to 111 lb. on the 2nd February 1936. No later report has been received.

(*b*) No petition has been received from the prisoner.

(*c*) Does not arise.

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—" May I know whether it is not a fact that he has originally lost 40 lb. and out of this 40 lb. he has made up only about 10 lb.? Has he yet to make up 30 lb.? "

The Hon. Sir K. V. REDDI NAYUDU:—" I want notice."

Mrs. A. RUKMANI LAKSHMIPATHI:—" My information is that Amir Hyder Khan is willing to be released. If he puts in a petition, will the Government consider the desirability of releasing him? "

The Hon. Sir K. V. REDDI NAYUDU:—" I do not think it will be possible to do that."

Mrs. A. RUKMANI LAKSHMIPATHI:—" May I ask what the objection of the Government is to release him, if he agrees to certain conditions? "

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The Hon. Sir K. V. REDDI NAYUDU :—" I am afraid there will be objections, because the previous history of the prisoner is such that it would not be safe."

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR :—" Will the Hon. Member be pleased to state why the Government have taken the period between the 16th October 1935 and 2nd February 1936? "

The Hon. Sir K. V. REDDI NAYUDU :—" That is the latest period for which figures are available? "

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR :—" On what date was he admitted and what was his weight then? "

The Hon. Sir K. V. REDDI NAYUDU :—" I want notice."

Forests

Supernumeraries in the Forest department.

* 957 *Q.*—Mr. A. B. SHETTY : Will the Hon. the Law Member be pleased to state whether any of the Madras students who have come out of the Forest College are working as supernumeraries in the Forest department and, if so, how many?

A.—No.

Mr. A. B. SHETTY :—" May I know whether any gazetted officers are working as supernumeraries in this department? "

The Hon. Sir K. V. REDDI NAYUDU :—" I do not know that exactly. So far as the question is concerned, the answer given is the direct answer. If the hon. Member wants any further information, I shall be very glad to furnish him."

Mr. A. B. SHETTY :—" Will the Hon. Member be pleased to state whether any officer is working as supernumerary? "

The Hon. Sir K. V. REDDI NAYUDU :—" I do not think we have got any supernumeraries; some of them have been absorbed in the various temporary arrangements."

Prohibition regarding the removal of manure leaves from the Reserved forest, Cumbum, Kurnool.

* 958 *Q.*—S. M. K. BEYADANI SAHIB Bahadur : Will the Hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the ryots of the Cumbum (Kurnool) taluk have made a representation to the Collector regarding the prohibition of the Forest department from taking cart-loads of manure leaves from the reserved forest area and whether any action has been taken in the matter to help the ryots;

(*b*) whether the Government have considered the desirability of opening depots of manure leaves in suitable centres and selling cart-loads of the same to the ryots through officers of the department; and

(*c*) whether the Government have any other proposal to help the ryot by supplying manure leaves?

A.—(*a*) Yes. On representation, the prohibition was withdrawn.

(*b*) The demand for manure leaves is very small. There is, therefore, no necessity to open manure leaf depots.

(*c*) Yes. As an experimental measure it is proposed to raise manure leaf plantations in areas where there is sufficient demand.

Mr. G. Rameswara Rao:—" With reference to the answer to clause (*c*), may I know whether the experiment is tried in the Kurnool district only and not in the Ceded Districts as a whole? "

The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu:—" Only in one locality."

Mr. G. Rameswara Rao:—" May I ask whether the Hon. the Law Member will consider the case of the Ceded Districts together, as there is a good deal of demand there for manure leaves? "

The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu:—" I shall be very glad to do so."

Land Revenue Administration

Representations from the ryots of Roddam Firka, Anantapur district, regarding seasonal conditions and concessions.

* 959 *Q.*—Mr. G. Rameswara Rao: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any representations have been received by the Government or the Collector of Anantapur, from the ryots of Roddam Firka of Penukonda taluk, regarding the seasonal conditions and requesting concessions; and

(*b*) what action, if any, has been taken thereon?

A.—(*a*) The Collector of Anantapur has reported that a resolution asking for remission for dry tracts was passed recently at a ryots' conference at Roddam in the Penukonda taluk.

(*b*) The Collector is inspecting the locality and will submit a report to the Government, if necessary.

Public Service

Inclusion of the Segidi community of Ganjam in the list of Scheduled Classes.

* 960 *Q.*—Mr. G. Rameswara Rao: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there is a community called the Segidi community in Ganjam and Vizagapatam districts numbering about 35,000 people; and

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(*b*) whether the Segidi community is included in the scheduled classes; if not, why not?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) No, because they are not an untouchable community.

Mr. G. Rameswara Rao:—" May I know whether, if a community is not an untouchable community, it will not be included in the scheduled classes? "

The Hon. Sir Charles Souter:—" Scheduled classes comprise only those classes who under the Census report, are included amongst *untouchables and not others.*"

Local Self-Government

Progress of the scheme for the bifurcation of the Chingleput District Board.

* 961 *Q*.—Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) at what stage the bifurcation of the Chingleput District Board is;

(*b*) what the probable income and expenditure of each of the district boards of that district as proposed to be bifurcated are;

(*c*) whether it is a fact that one of the district boards of that district is to work at a deficit each year if the bifurcation is brought into effect;

(*d*) what remedy do the Government propose for it; and

(*e*) what the annual normal income and expenditure of the Chingleput District Board are?

A.—(*a*) The proposal is still under consideration.

(*b*) The normal income and expenditure of each of the new boards have not yet been estimated.

(*c*) & (*d*) Do not arise.

(*e*) Normal receipts Rs. 6,12,430.

Normal expenditure Rs. 5,70,260.

Provincialization of the service of Local Fund Assistant Engineers.

* 962 *Q*.—Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether consideration in the matter of provincialisation of the services of the Local Fund Assistant Engineers as requested by a resolution of the Conference of District Board Engineers referred to in question No. 28 answered at the meeting of the Legislative Council on 5th August 1935 has been over by now; and

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(*b*) if so, whether a copy of the resolution of the said conference, and a copy of the order passed in the matter will be placed on the table?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) A copy [a] of the resolution is placed on the table. The Government do not propose to take any action on the resolution.

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR:—" May I ask how the matter has been disposed of? Does the Government propose to form a provincial cadre of Local Fund Assistant Engineers or not? "

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—" The Government do not propose to form a provincial service for any and every class of local fund employees."

Mr. K. KOTI REDDI:—" The resolution passed by the Local Fund Engineers' Association says that there would be economical expenditure of public funds; in view of that fact, will the Government constitute a provincial service for them? "

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—" That is the opinion of the conference and not of the Government."

Treatment of the difference between actual pay and the revised scale of pay of elementary school teachers under district boards as personal pay.

* 963 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether orders have been passed in the matter of allowing the difference between actual pay at the time of introduction of the new scale of pay and the pay fixed in the new scale for those elementary school teachers under the employ of district boards who have been previously drawing more than the maximum in the new scales, as personal pay;

(*b*) if so, whether a copy of the order passed in the matter will be placed on the table; and

(*c*) if not, whether lists of such teachers have been called for from the district boards, and what the district boards are that have not so far submitted such lists?

A.—(*a*) Orders were issued in G.O. No. 749, L. & M., dated 25th February 1935. Paragraph 2 of the Government Order covers the cases mentioned in this clause.

(*b*) A copy of the above Government Order was placed on the table in reply to question No. 897 on 15th March 1935.

(*c*) Does not arise.

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[a] Printed as Appendix I on page 384 infra.

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Public Works

Proposal for the appointment of a Special Officer as Consulting Architect for the construction of the new Parliament Buildings at Madras.

* 964 *Q.*—Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that a special officer has been proposed, by Mr. Dann himself for the construction of the New Parliamentary buildings at Madras, as the Consulting Architect; if so, on what pay the new Consulting Architect is to be entertained and for what term; and

(*b*) what action the Government have taken or propose to take in the matter?

A.—(*a*) *&* (*b*) Arrangements for the construction of a Parliament House are under the consideration of the Government, including the question of the appointment of a Special Architect.

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—" In the advertisement calling for applications for the post, will the Government insert a clause to the effect that only applications from candidates who have to their credit the erection of buildings in India will be considered, and not from others? "

The Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—" We are advertising both in India and in England; I dare say that a man with Indian experience *might* be given preference."

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR:—" Why have the Government not answered the specific question in (*a*), whether a special officer has been proposed by Mr. Dann himself? "

The Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—" The correspondence between the Government and the officer cannot be disclosed."

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR:—" Then how does the question of appointing a special officer arise? "

The Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—" Because the Government considered the circumstances of the case and they think that a special officer has to be appointed."

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—" Is it the opinion of the Government that Mr. Dann, the present Consulting Architect, is not competent to be put in charge of the Legislative Assembly buildings? "

The Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—" Nothing of the sort."

Registration

Proposals for the reduction of the number of sub-registry offices.

* 965 *Q.*—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there is any proposal to reduce the number of sub-registry offices; and

(*b*) if so, in which districts and for what reasons?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The question of reducing the number of sub-registr offices in the Presidency with a view to reducing th expenditure of the department is under the consideratio of Government. No decision has been reached yet.

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—"Will the Hon. Minister be pleased to stat what the number of offices is that is proposed to be reduced in th whole Presidency?"

The Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—"I cannot say definitely; about 10 offices are to be abolished."

Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR:—"Of all departments, wh is the Registration department chosen for retrenchment?"

The Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—"It is working at a loss."

Mr. G. SIMHACHALAM PANTULU:—"Will the Government take int consideration the inconvenience that would be caused by the reductio of these offices?"

The Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—"All the observations made by hon Members at the time of the general budget discussion will b taken into consideration when the final decision is arrived at."

Mr. V. P. NARAYANAN NAMBIYAR:—"May I know whether th Government propose to reduce the strength of the offices or to abolis them?"

The Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—"The matter is under considera tion."

The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"We are coming to the Registratio Demand very soon and these points can be raised then."

Levy of stamp fees on applications and appeals made to the Registration department.

* 966 *Q.*—Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO: Will the Hon. the Ministe for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any new fee has been fixed for applications to th Registration department;

(*b*) whether any court-fee has been fixed for appeals to the Distric Registrar against the orders of the sub-registrar;

(*c*) if so, whether the orders on the subject will be placed on th table of the House; and

(*d*) what are the reasons for the issue of such orders?

A.—(*a*) A fee of two annas is levied in respect of every applicatio made to a Registering Officer for an inspection, a searc or a copy or extract of any document on record in registration office.

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(b) A fixed fee of ten rupees is levied for the presentation of each appeal under section 72 of the Indian Registration Act, 1908, or application under section 73 of the Act against the orders of a Sub-Registrar refusing to register a document.

(c) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to Law (Registration) Department Notification No. 3, dated 20th January 1936, published on page 83 of Part I of the *Fort St. George Gazette, dated 28th January* 1936.

(d) The levy of annas two referred to in the answer to clause (a) has been made because it is considered necessary to charge a small fee to cover the cost of printed forms of applications which are now issued free of cost and to cover also the labour of preserving them.

The levy of a fee of Rs. 10 referred to in the answer to clause (b) is considered necessary in view of the considerable time and labour involved on the part of District Registrars in hearing and disposing of appeals.

Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO:—" May I know with reference to answer (a), whether this is an additional fee other than the fee that is already levied?"

The Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—" If an application is put in for anything, you have got to pay 2 annas."

Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO:—" In addition to the usual and existing fees?"

The Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—" Yes."

Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO:—" With reference to answer (d), may I know whether the party will be allowed to put in his own application, without using the official printed application and whether in such a case, no fee will be levied?"

Th Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—" Hitherto, applications were made on blank papers; hereafter the printed form will have to be used."

Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO:—" If the application is made on a blank sheet of paper, will the fee of 2 annas be dispensed with?"

The Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—" No, Sir."

Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR:—" Is it proposed to make retrenchment in the Registration Department, because the Hon. Minister is not putting up a strong fight with the Government?"

The Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—" Not at all; as a matter of fact, the expenditure on the department is more than the income that is derived from it; we will have to make the department self-supporting."

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—" Is it the policy of the Government to reduce the number of offices and increase the fees on applications, etc.?"

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The Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—"If the Government can possibly get on by reducing the number of offices, they will do so."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Is it only the question of making an economy that matters and not the necessity for the existence of these offices and convenience to the public?"

The Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—"Both the question of economy and facilities to be given to the public."

Sriman M. G. PATNAIK Mahasayo:—"Will the Government bear in mind the fact that people have to go long distances to have their documents registered?"

The Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—"That is exactly the reason why the matter is still under consideration."

Rao Sahib V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"May I know if the co-operative societies have to pay the full fees or half fees?"

The Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—"I believe they have got to pay half the fees."

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR:—"May I know whether the Hon. Minister will place the question of reduction of the Sub-Registrars' offices before the Finance Committee, before the Government take final action?"

The Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—"I am prepared to consider the suggestion of my hon. Friend."

UNSTARRED QUESTION

Famine Relief

Prevalence of famine conditions in the Ganjam district.

967 *Q.*—Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government are aware of the fact that there was a complete failure of both the monsoons and consequent loss of crops in the Ganjam district, more especially in that part of the district which is to remain in the Madras Presidency, namely, Ichapore, Sompeta, Mandasa, Tekkali taluks and parts of Chicacole including Parlakimedi;

(*b*) whether the Government have received from the District Collector of Ganjam, reports as to the total failure of crops and the utter scarcity of water-supply in these parts;

(*c*) what steps the Government have taken to provide immediate water-supply in these areas and to arrange for supply of seed grains in these parts;

(*d*) whether the Government have considered the question of declaring that in these areas famine conditions prevail and start relief measures for providing immediate relief to the people in these areas;

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(e) whether the Government are aware that the District Board of Ganjam allotted Rs. 10,000 for immediate and temporary provision for drinking water-supply;

(f) whether the Government have made a special contribution of an adequate amount to the District Collector for making arrangements regarding drinking water-supply and for supply of grains to the ryots; and

(g) when they propose to start relief works in these famine stricken areas and what other arrangements are going to be made for immediate relief of the people?

A.—(a) & (b) The Government are aware that seasonal conditions have been unfavourable in parts of the Ganjam district. The area seriously affected is comparatively small, consisting of the Tekkali taluk, less the Mandasa estate, and a portion of the Parlakimedi taluk about six miles deep bordering on the Tekkali taluk. There has been a considerable failure of crops in this area, and there is a shortage of drinking water. There has been partial loss of crops in some other parts of the Parlakimedi taluk and the Mandasa estate and in parts of Ichapur taluk, but the situation in those areas is not serious.

(c) & (f) The Collector has spent about Rs. 1,200 from his discretionary grant on the digging of temporary wells and he has received an additional allotment of Rs. 2,750 for the same purpose. The Government have sanctioned a special grant of Rs. 10,000 to the Chicacole District Board for digging wells and another sum of Rs. 5,000 to meet the cost of repairs to ten drinking water tanks.

The Collector will grant loans under the Loans Acts, wherever necessary, for the purchase of seed grain. He has made special arrangements to enable the ryots to purchase seed grain. The Government have sanctioned an additional allotment of Rs. 40,000 for the grant of loans.

(d) & (g) The necessity for test works, and relief works under the provisions of the Famine Code has not yet arisen, and the Government do not anticipate, from the reports already received, that it will be necessary to start such works. The Collector has recently reported that there have been heavy falls of rain since the middle of January, which has resulted in the provision of a certain amount of employment and has generally eased the situation. The Government have sanctioned a grant of Rs. 43,500 to the District Board for the expansion of road works to relieve unemployment. The Collector has applied for a further grant of Rs. 23,200.

(e) The Government understand that the District Board has allotted Rs. 18,000 for this purpose.

[*Note.*—**An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.**]

II.—ACT ASSENTED TO BY HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR.

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—" I have to announce that the Madras Forest Amendment Act, 1936, received the assent of His Excellency the Governor on the 9th March 1936."

III.—BUDGET FOR 1936–37—VOTING OF DEMANDS FOR GRANTS.

DEMAND IV—FOREST—RESERVED—*cont.*

Discussion on Demand IV was resumed.

* The Hon. Sir K. V. REDDI NAYUDU:—" Mr. President, Sir, at the very outset you will allow me to say that I am very thankful to the Members of this House for the moderate criticisms which they have levelled against the Forest department, a department as we all know, which cannot be expected to be very popular in the very nature of things. Man, Sir, dislikes restrictions and not long ago these forests were being enjoyed very freely by the villagers close by and when the Act was passed and restrictions were placed, it is only natural that people resent them. As the discussion on Saturday disclosed, it is now realized and I am very thankful to hon. Members once more for the very reasonable attitude they have taken and for the acceptance of the principle that forests are our national assets and we owe a duty, to posterity, of maintaining them, and for ourselves.

" I have analysed the criticisms; they can be placed under two heads; one of them, the more important, goes to the root of the matter and refers to the financial difficulties; the second refers to minor matters of administrative grievances. On the main question, Sir, which was raised by my hon. Friend, Mr. Arasu, he stated that the revenue has been decreasing while the expenditure has been increasing. That statement, Sir, is only partially true. No doubt there were years in which that state of affairs existed; but if the hon. Member would look into the figures of later years, he would notice that the reverse is the truth.

1-15 p.m. " For instance, Sir, in the year 1933–34, we had a revenue of Rs. 39.43 lakhs while the expenditure was Rs. 39.20 lakhs. This is the year in regard to which perhaps the hon. Member's observation is correct, because in the previous year, i.e., 1932–33, the revenue was Rs. 47·38 lakhs while the expenditure was Rs. 37·89 lakhs; that is to say, in 1933–34, our revenue decreased by about Rs. 8 lakhs while our expenditure increased by about Rs. 2½ lakhs. But if the hon. Member would look into the next year, 1934–35, he would find that the revenue was Rs. 42 lakhs as against Rs. 39 lakhs of the previous year, while the expenditure was Rs. 38 lakhs as against Rs. 39 of the previous year. He will thus find that there is an improvement; and the suggestion that while revenue was decreasing, expenditure was increasing, cannot be said to be true in the case of that year. Then again, Sir . . ."

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Mr. V. T. Arasu :—" I confined my remarks, Sir, to the year 1930, and did not refer to the other years."

* The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu :—" A quinquennium is a very long period in matters like this, and my hon. Friend cannot take me to task for what happened five or six years ago. For the year 1935–36, the revised estimates show that the revenue is Rs. 44·57 lakhs as against Rs. 42 lakhs of the previous year an increase of Rs. 2½ lakhs, whereas the expenditure increased only by about a lakh and a half. Well, the Budget Estimates for 1936–37 show that the revenue anticipated is Rs. 43·27 lakhs while the expenditure has been reduced by about a lakh. It would come to about Rs. 38·44. Now, Sir, this reasoning about increased expenditure and decreased revenue is based on the ordinary theory, viz., that when you are spending a large sum of money, you ought to be able to have a commensurate revenue, the net profits being more or less proportionate, as would ordinarily be found in any commercial concern. To some extent, Sir, I must admit there is force in the criticism, but when it is realized that there is a great deal of difference for instance between agriculture and sylviculture,—forest growing,—the results cannot be the same in this case as in agriculture where I suppose every year you expect a decent return on the investment you have made or the money you have spent on manure, labour, etc. Such a thing cannot be said of forests, because they take years to grow and there are various other circumstances on which the yield or annual revenue has to depend. In the first place, you have got the market to take into consideration. It may be that there is no sufficient demand for a particular kind of wood which you are able to produce; it may be that other provinces are supplying the same kind of wood and therefore there is not much demand for our wood. There is then the question of road communications. Honourable Members are fully aware that it is a little over fifty years since we commenced our forest administration, and our forests are mostly on hills and are inaccessible, though every attempt is being made to lay out roads. It is for that purpose mainly that the Department of Working Plans has been started and good work is being done. As years roll on, as we are able to spend more money on these roads and communications, I am perfectly certain that the return would be commensurate with the moneys we have been spending. As has already been ably stated by my esteemed Friend the Maharaja of Parlakimedi, the forests are not only a national asset, but they are essential in many other ways as a source of raw material indispensable to the economic development of the country, from a climatic point of view, for retaining the moisture, retaining rainfall, helping the flow of water in the rivers and other reservoirs, and to the public hygiene due to the purity of the air in the forests, etc. We have to maintain these forests even though occasionally it might turn out that expenditure is somewhat increasing. Sir, our population has been increasing by leaps and bounds. Within a decade, we increased from 319 millions in this country to 350 millions. The natural resources at our disposal will have to be developed if we are to cater to the needs of this growing population. House-building, pasture, fuel, timber,

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furniture—all these require the products of our forests, even excluding many other important items such as raw material for our factories such as pencil or paper factories. All these require development, and naturally we have to spend more money from which we cannot expect to draw immediate returns, but in regard to which we might be certain that a day will come when the iuvestment will be more than repaid.

" Now, Sir, I shall turn to the other important criticism, viz., the excessive staff employed in the Forest department. There was a time, Sir, when the staff was really excessive. But it will be remembered that we have not recruited a single officer of the Indian Forest Service for the last six years. In fact, it has been complained that perhaps the Indian Forest Service is a vanishing service. As against the sanctioned permissible strength of 64 officers, we are now having only 50 officers. Two of these are away on foreign service and three would shortly be going to Orissa, while one is on long leave preparatory to retirement—so that we are left with only 44 officers. There are 30 officers in the provincial cadre of whom 1 is in Coorg and 4 will be going to Orissa, leaving us only 25. The total number of the Indian Forest Service and Provincial Forest Service officers will thus be 69 officers. We want 58 of them for actual duties and 8 as a leave reserve. Of these, I may perhaps mention that one is the Chief Conservator, 6 are Conservators and 10 are working in the Working Plans Circle, 28 in the divisions, 4 in the College, 1 in the Sylviculture section, 1 in the Forest Utilization section, 6 assistants to the District Forest Officers and 1 Personal Assistant to the Chief Conservator of Forests. The total is 58. To this will have to be added the leave reserve of 8, at the rate of 14 per cent, though usually 25 per cent is allowed in the case of the Indian Forest Service cadre, and at this rate, we would be wanting 11 officers—but as I said, we have taken here only 8. Thus, the total is 66. We still want 2 for the Government of India, and 1 for Rampa for which a division will be newly created. We have thus barely the absolute minimum. The charge therefore that this department is overmanned is not quite correct.

" I am reminded, Sir, that we have to wait for seventy years to get any return from a forest that is planted now. As a matter of fact, these forests have been in existence for some time and while we are exploiting, we are also regenerating. Where a forest has been cut, working plan officers have been busy making plans for the regeneration of the forest, and I have myself seen in the northern division of the East Godavari district a number of places where they are growing newly by two systems, one by sowing the seed and another by allowing the crops to come up, so that we will have these forests once more. Anyway, Sir, I should think that the results so far achieved by the Forest department, although it may appear to hon. Members that a large sum of money is being spent on forests, have been really satisfactory and there is a prospect of good results in the future.

" The next criticism that has been levelled against this department is with reference to the Forest college. The points of criticism were

that it costs about Rs. 48,000 or Rs. 49,000 every year, that the cost is disproportionate to the number of students, only 35 of them are there, and all of them are stipendiary students. Secondly, it was also said that subjects like mycology, entomology, geology, etc., are not taught there, and because the Agriculture College is close by, some arrangement might be made with that college in accordance with which a few professors of that college who could not be directly employed in this department might be asked to come to this college and teach those subjects. It was also asked 'why not employ retired Indian Forest Service Officers'—in which college, I do not know. Well, this is a suggestion which does not appeal to me at any rate, as a reasonable one. The two points that do require a reply are the first two. As regards the cost of this college, the point to be remembered is that we do want a number of rangers. The question naturally arises: are we to have a college or not. Several times the question was raised for the abolition of the college, and I am certain that many hon. Members of this House do not like the closing down of the college altogether. It may be that those that are very close to it, who are living in the same place, perhaps wish for it, but there are many others who do really want this college. It must be remembered that to train our rangers, we must have this college, and if we do not want to abolish it, the expense is necessary. We are having at present only two professors of the Indian Forest Service and two provincial officers. This is a two years' course and so there have to be two classes; and taking into account that some leisure has to be allowed to professors, as is generally done in every educational institution, I do not think it would be seriously contended that four professors or lecturers are too many for a college of this magnitude. One of these is the principal of the college, and he has also administrative duties. One other lecturer has also to be the warden of the hostel. It will thus be seen that four lecturers for the college are not too many. There is however a possibility which has got to be examined. The question has not been hitherto raised; but criticism in this House has suggested this possibility to me, and I shall be very glad to have it examined. It is this: would it be possible to have only two officers, one from the Indian Forest Service and another from the provincial service, while they could be assisted by two other officers of the grade of senior rangers? If we could get two senior rangers who could do the work, I should think it ought to be possible; but as I told you, this question has not been examined, and I shall see that it is examined as early as possible.

"As I told you, Sir, it is a new one and I cannot promise that it 11
would be done, but every effort will be made to see if that is possible. a
I am not aware if there are any rangers in our service senior enough and capable enough to undertake the work of teaching. My hon. Friend, I believe, Mr. Rameswara Rao, wanted that some more subjects should be taught. After all, these rangers are only subordinate officers and to be able to teach all these scientific subjects may not be quite easy for them. There is also this case to be considered. When these students are only required to be rangers, whether it would be necessary to teach

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them these kinds of sciences to which reference has been made by my hon. Friend is a matter which requires to be considered. It is possible that a knowledge of these sciences would be required in the higher officers, but so far as rangers are concerned I am very doubtful whether a knowledge of these sciences would be essential. Be that as it may, my Friend, has referred to Geology, Entomology and Mycology. If he had only referred to any book on forestry, he would have noticed that there are a number of other sciences besides these. Curiosity made me look into books and I find that there are as many as fifteen sciences to be taught here. There is for instance Forest Botany, Deodology, Forest Mycology, Forest Zoology, Forest Mathematics, Forest Trigonometry, Sylviculture, methods of growing timber, forest protection, forest fires, Entomology, Forest Mensuration to ascertain the volume and the rate of growth of things, and I do not know what else; also Forest Surveys, forest valuation, forest finance, forest regulations of working plans, forest admiuistration, timber physics, soil chemistry, wood technology, political economy and so on and so forth. Sir, it is certainly not the intention of my hon. Friend that all these sciences should be taught to students who are only expected to be rangers. I should therefore think it would not be proper on our part to trouble the Agricultural College with these things. Perhaps the professors there have got as much work as they can themselves do at present and it may not be quite easy for them to do all this; nor do I expect the Hon. Minister in charge of Agriculture to be willing and ready to help the Forest department with the assistance of the Agricultural College staff.

" Mr. President, Sir, I shall try to finish as soon as possible. There are one or two important points to which reference has been made. As regards sandalwood sales, my hon. Friend was suggesting that our income has considerably gone down. It is true, but the fault is not ours. It is due to slump in the market, for one thing due to economic depression and secondly . . . (Mr. V. T. Arasu: 'What about Mysore? ') I am not in a position to say what has been done in Mysore; it may be that their production is larger and there may also be other causes. But what I would submit is this; that quite recently Australian wood which has not been hitherto recognized by the British Pharmacopœia is now recognized for its essence and oils. That may perhaps be one of the reasons why Australian wood finds larger market and sells cheaper than our wood. Therefore, it is not correct to say that there is anything wrong with the department simply because the sales did not produce as much revenue as they produced before. But as far as I am aware, there was only one year, that was 1929–30 which was the boom year when a great increase was available. I would leave it at that and come to the other thing, namely, wattle bark. So far as wattle bark is concerned, our bark Tangedu was certainly as good as wattle extract, but the misfortune seems to be that hitherto the cutting of Avaram bark was not organized and permits were issued without any regard for plantations. I call them plantations because most of them were natural growth and the result was that people cut them indiscriminately so much so it has now gone down in quantity. Naturally.

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there is not sufficient Avaram bark easily available though there is still a large quantity available. It is only natural therefore that people who go in for foreign barks, especially from South Africa, because they have got very little to pay for freight, get them perhaps at a cheaper rate. At one time, I may point out this Government wanted to impose a duty on such things, but it came to nothing.

"There are, Sir, various other points into which I do not propose to go in detail, as regards the supply of fuel, green manure, provision of grazing facilities, paucity of men belonging to the depressed classes in the staff of the department, reduction of grazing fees and so on. These, Sir, have been sufficiently dealt with in the Administration Report for 1934–35 at paragraph 107 *et seq* to which I invite the attention of hon. Members. Here I would like to deal with the provision for grazing facilities. During the year under review, grazing permits were issued to as many as 1,468,000 animals as against 1,458,500 animals in the previous year. Besides these, over 106,000 odd animals grazed free of charge and the revenue foregone on account of this free grazing is something like Rs. 46,000 odd. It will therefore be seen that every possible facility is being afforded by the department for grazing purposes.

"There is also the question that this grazing fee should be reduced. I may here point out that our annual revenue from grazing fees is nearly Rs. 6 lakhs. It will not seriously be urged that these fees would have to be reduced at a time when they are complaining that our revenues are not sufficient. Further the question of lowering or raising the fees has been considered. Officers recommended that the rates should be increased, but the Government, considering the depression, stoutly refused to agree to that. From that it will be noticed that Government have been careful in this matter in seeing that no undue pressure is placed upon the villagers and that every effort is being made to see that their condition is helped to the best of their ability.

"Sir, I do not propose to refer to the other points raised by hon. Members. Once more I thank the hon. Members for the very moderate criticisms which they have advanced and with such criticisms we will be in a position to see what is really required, and everything possible will be done in regard to the different items which have been suggested to us."

The cut motion [a] was put and lost.

The main Demand was then put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND V—REGISTRATION—TRANSFERRED.

* The Hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan:—"Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I move that Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 29,31,400 under Demand V—Registration—Transferred."

[a] To reduce the allotment of Rs. 31,000 for Forest—Reserved—General Direction—Pay of Establishments by Rs. 100.

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Mr. K. Koti Reddi:—" Mr. President I move . . ."

* The Hon. the President:—" I may point out to the hon. Member that several hon. Members are desirous of speaking on this Demand. He may, therefore, try to be as brief as possible."

* Mr. K. Koti Reddi:—" Sir, I move for the reduction of the allotment of Rs. 25,200 for Superintendence—Pay of Officers by Rs. 100. Sir, the main purpose with which I have given notice of this motion is to raise the very question that we have been raising in this House with practically little effect for a number of years, namely, the sort of corruption that is prevailing in the lower ranks of the Registration department. I do not mean by this that the other departments are free from corruption. I do not want to be understood that I am particularly severe on this department. But, Sir, a sort of mamul has grown in the department at any rate in certain districts in this Presidency. In spite of certain efforts made by the Inspector-General of Registration the success attained in putting down this corruption is very little. I thought it was confined to the Ceded districts alone—and there are certain special reasons for it which I shall say presently, but on enquiry from some members coming from the other districts, I was told that though the evil was not so great in those districts, even there corruption does exist on a fairly large scale. I need not narrate why corruption exists and there are various reasons for it. Firstly, it is due to the fact that the payment made to the Sub-Registrar compared to the other departments is much less. That may be one of the reasons. But the easy way of getting money without unnecessarily offending any one and without much inconvenience to others is the thing that easily leads to this system of mamul that has grown in the Ceded districts. This is how it happens. If people go to a Sub-Registrar's office for registering documents and if they do not want to pay the usual mamul, the Sub-Registrar can easily delay them by saying that the document was defective, that a particular thing was not correct and that he might take it back and get it rectified. He may also say, 'there are so many other documents already presented and I have no time to register your document' and so on. Of course, there is a rule to the effect that a document received after 3-30 p.m. could be rejected provided there is enough work on hand. After all, who is to judge whether there is enough work or not. Various excuses can be made by the Sub-Registrar. The difficulty with regard to people is that they cannot afford to be away from their villages for more than a day, because it really means a lot of expenditure, paying parties, paying witnesses which might probably amount to more than what one has to pay in the shape of mamul to these Sub-Registrars. Happily at present the mamul is reduced to a sum equivalent to the registration fee. I know it was once as high as even the stamp fee, but now it has been reduced a little bit. Speaking from my own experience, my own clerk had once to pay this mamul and when the matter was brought to my notice, I asked the clerk why he did it and wanted to bring it to the notice of higher authorities but the clerk replied, 'you may write to any one you like;

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but we won't then be able to get our work done.' It is thus not easy to get on with the work without paying this mamul. (A voice: 'How much did your clerk pay for registering the document?') It was I think more than Rs. 20; it was many years ago. (Rao Bahadur D. Krishnamurti: 'In what year?') I think in the year 1922 or so. But it still continues and of course with some difference. Sir, some remedy must be found for this state of affairs. You may appoint a committee to verify this if you like to go into the question whether the evil exists or not.

"To a certain extent, in other districts also, it exists. What are we to do? I do not think you can be satisfied with the answer once given by the Hon. Minister. I do not remember the exact terms of his statement but it comes to this; if you do not offer a bribe no officer will take any. That ought not to be the answer from the Hon. Member. When people are in difficulties and when a man, say, is charged with murder and if a circle inspector or sub-inspector who investigates the case is prepared to take a bribe, can you go and preach to such a man 'Oh! don't bribe'? More or less the circumstances are the same with regard to registration. A man comes to the headquarters for registration. If you do not pay the mamul some delay is caused and he has to stay for another day and it means more expenditure than what he has to pay as mamul. Do you mean to say he won't bribe? Don't bribe is not the proper answer from the Hon. Minister. Some serious attempts ought to be made to put an end to it. In this connexion I must say that the Inspector-General is making some attempts by means of surprise visits. He will, I am sure, accept that it is not enough. Some of the sub-registrars manage with the petition writers. If certain petition writers present the documents for registration at once they register it. That means that the party has already paid the petition writer the mamul. This is the understanding in the case of some sub-registrars. So, Sir, some attempts should be made. I may suggest various remedies for the consideration of the Government. I hope Government will take serious steps to see how far it is possible to put an end to it. There is one direction in which Government must persevere and that is the opening of more sub-registry offices in the Ceded districts. In the administration report for the triennium ending with the year 1934 the point has been made very clear in paragraph 17: 11-45 a.m.

'Another direction in which more facilities can be afforded to the registering public is by the opening of more offices. Experience has shown that in districts like Malabar, where there are eighty sub-registrars' offices, with one for every 72½ square miles and in the Tamil districts where for every 157 square miles there is a sub-registrar's office, there is more incentive for the people to register all their transactions, whether compulsorily registerable or not, than in the Telugu districts where there is a sub-office for every 440 square miles on the average, there being only sixteen sub-offices on the average per district in all the twelve Telugu districts. The number is even much less in the Ceded districts, there being only fifty offices in the four Ceded districts comprising a total area of 25,952 square miles, i.e., one office for every 519 square miles . . . The Government on the other hand desire that the number of registration offices should be reduced, if necessary, to make the department self-supporting in spite of the very severe retrenchment effected as detailed in paragraph 11.'

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" If there are more sub-registry offices, if the distance between two offices is considerably less, even if there is some difficulty raised for registering the documents on a particular day they can easily go home if the distance is within 5 or 6 miles. In such cases the parties will go and come again to avoid extra expenditure in the headquarters. That is why I plead, apart from other considerations that there is absolute necessity to open more sub-registry offices in the Ceded districts. If permanent offices are not possible, there is the itinerary system. That system must be put into effect generally. In 1931 as a measure of retrenchment that system was stopped. I want to impress on the Government the necessity of adopting this system in the whole of the Ceded districts. In this connexion I may make a suggestion and it is this. If the Government think that even the itinerary system is costly, there is one method by which cost can he minimised. The tahsildars and deputy tahsildars can be empowered to register documents when they go on tour in the villages. That is a direction in which I do not see why Government should not move. I do not think there is any difficulty standing in their way. As a matter of fact the deputy tahsildar in Anjengo is also ex-officio sub-registrar. I think every deputy tahsildar and tahsildar can be made a sub-registrar when they go out on tours in villages. That system could be tried. Then there is another way. It was thought that by recruiting graduates as sub-registrars there would be less corruption. Facts have disproved this. If there is one department in which special academic qualifications are not necessary it is the registration department. If instead of recruiting graduates, you recruit S.S.L.Cs. who can do the work as satisfactorily as graduates, they will be content with less pay and probably less mamul. That reminds me of the old days when the head constables used to be in charge of the police stations. I was told that wherever there was corruption the head constable was satisfied with much less than the sub-inspector. I believe that applies with equal force if not with more force in the case of the sub-registrars. The graduate sub-registrar compares his prospects with the graduates in other departments and one cannot but say that his prospects in this department are comparatively poor. Naturally, when he finds that his chances of promotion are few to the place of registrars who are very few and not highly paid, when he finds that he has no chance to rise much higher in the department, he is led into easily earning money by mamuls generally through the clerks. If occasionally there is one who has not learnt the trick, the clerks put him in the way of earning this mamul. So Government, instead of recruiting graduates, can say 'we do not want graduates. We want S.S.L.Cs'. At any rate, a larger proportion of the latter can be entertained. They will be content with less pay and less mamul. If a large number of honest clerks are promoted as sub-registrars, then, this mamul will die a natural death. When they have fair chances of being promoted to high offices they won't easily be tempted into the mamul. That is a direction in which Government can move. The master remedy that I thought of, not only for this department but for all departments, to put an end to or at any rate minimize corruption would be as I once

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suggested, to appoint a committee consisting of the District Magistrate, District Judge, and one or two of the heads of other departments in the district and one or two non-officials if you please with power to make enquiries in camera and then make recommendations of dismissal, or suspension or transfer. I think it would go a great way in putting an end to corruption. The very existence of a committee like this will go a long way to stop corruption. Officials themselves know who is corrupt but they can't do much at present. You cannot get witnesses in open enquiry. Many of us and even officials know who is corrupt; but they cannot bring a man to book. If they have power to make enquiries in camera and make recommendations of dismissal or suspension it will do a great deal to stop corruption. There are a number of other things on which I could not speak for want of time. However there is one important thing with reference to the answer given this morning to a question. The Government wants to decrease the number of offices in order to see that the department is not run at a loss. The Hon. Minister said this morning that a hundred offices are under consideration to be removed. I am very much in doubt whether this department is really run at a loss and whether it is not making a profit. I think this is a department in which Government can very well afford and ought to bear some loss. I do not believe Government is incurring any loss in working this department. Taking the figures for 1934–35, I find that the income is 31·93 lakhs, while the expenditure is 29·24 lakhs to which, may be added pensions, to run it as a commercial concern. According to my calculations I have put 2·24 lakhs for pensions. Even if you go to the extent of giving allowance for buildings, it won't be more than a lakh and fifty thousand per year including depreciation. So all this comes to 33 lakhs as against 31·93 lakhs income. In determining whether this department is working at a loss or profit there are two things which have to be considered. So far as the co-operative department is concerned the service is given half free. With regard to the Land Mortgage Bank it is full free. If the income to be derived from charging the full fees for those departments, viz., Rs. 1,26,376 were to be added to the present income, I am sure Government is not incurring any loss, but it is making some profit. It is an essential service and I hope Government will see its way to increase the sub-registry offices.

"There is only one more point, and that is a point to which I have 12 noon made reference many a time and on which Government have not taken any steps whatsoever. As a measure of retrenchment, the district charges have been reduced, and Cuddapah is one of the first districts to suffer from that. Now, I think Villupuram and one more place have also come under that axe. If Government thinks that two districts can be combined without loss of efficiency, I have no objection. But my objection is to this, that when two districts are combined into one district charge, so far as the registering of documents at the headquarters of the district charge which is abolished is considered there is difficulty, because you can't now get documents registered quickly.

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At present anyone in Cuddapah wanting to register a document, has to go to Jammalamadugu or Pulivendla or some other sub-registry office; but if there is a Cuddapah district charge, you can get any document registered in Cuddapah provided the property is somewhere in the Cuddapah district. At present my district is put to great inconvenience because it is clubbed with another district into one district charge. If Government can, if necessary, have the law suitably amended, these powers can very well be entrusted to the headquarters sub-registrar, which will be a great convenience to the registering public. Many a time we find it very inconvenient to get a document registered in the sub-registry office in whose jurisdiction property is situate. It may be a great advantage if the documents can be registered at the headquarters of both the districts, even though two districts are combined under one district registrar."

* Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar:—" Mr. President, Sir, I have no doubt that the Members of this House have listened with great interest and sympathy to the remarks of my hon. Friend Mr. Koti Reddi because there is no one here who is not interested in putting down corruption whatever the department it may exist in. But I fear that the remedies suggested by my friend will not achieve the purpose we have in view. For example, he says in effect ' don't care for men of character or for people with high educational qualifications.' According to him character is not to be found in people with high educational qualifications, and so unpassed people and people with S.S.L.C. qualifications who cannot find a job anywhere are to be preferred. Why? Because they will be content with less bribe. Surely any department run on lines such as those adumbrated by my hon. friend will stand condemned from the very outset. I am against the lowering of the qualifications required for sub-registrars. By that I do not mean that people who are clerks in the office and who are not graduates are never to be appointed to these posts. As a matter of fact, even now these clerks are promoted as sub-registrars. I am very sorry that the Inspector-General of Registration is looking at his department, almost entirely from a money-making point of view. The Inspector-General should try to safeguard the interests of the public and see that the facilities which the public have a right to expect in the matter of registration of documents are preserved for them, if not extended. Instead of that, he seems to be bent upon somehow making more money for the department by reducing the number of offices, by increasing miscellaneous fees in one direction or other. These methods are very objectionable from the point of view of the public. The Inspector-General should not allow himself to be carried away by the idea that his duty is merely to carry out the dictates of people above. I hear from my hon. Friend Mr. Raman Menon that so far as the Malabar district is concerned corruption is almost nil there. It is due I understand to the large number of sub-registry offices in the area. Compare that with the number of offices in districts like the Ceded districts. When a man has to travel a long distance to get his documents registered and his document is not registered the same day, he is put to a

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lot of inconvenience, and he is naturally anxious to get his document registered somehow, even by making an improper payment for it. If the office is not far off from his place, he will not mind returning to his village, saying ' I will come again to-morrow.' Sir, the temptation on the part of the registering public to yield to the demands of the sub-registrar is at a minimum where you have a large number of offices scattered over a district. That is the line the Government should adopt if they want to put down corruption. Increase the number of sub-registry offices, so that people may not find any difficulty in registering documents, if not on the same day, at least on the next day. The purity of the administration depends to a large extent upon the officers in charge. (A voice: ' on the people.') You and I and the Hon. the Law Member know what steps the Government have taken to educate and improve the morale of the people, which is the duty of any enlightened Government. For example, in England when franchise was extended, the responsible Ministers at once made up their mind to educate the masses. What has our Government done to educate the masses? Precious little. (Interruption.) I can claim a much better record than any of the gentlemen opposite. (The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi: ' Agreed.') Well, Sir, I was saying that much depends on the people in charge. By that I mean this. At present, the district registrars avail themselves of few opportunities to come in contact with the general public either at their headquarters or outside it. They may pay surprise visits to sub-registry offices to see if everything is up to date. But this is not enough. They must establish points of contact with the respectable people of each station, so that the sub-registrar of the place would know that if the district registrar comes for inspection, he is not satisfied with a formal inspection of his office but gets into touch with the respectable people of the place, who may tell the truth about him and his doings. That moral fear must be present in the minds of the sub-registrars who are disposed to be lax in their work. That would be a line, I should think, which could profitably be pursued by the Inspector-General and the District Registrars. As I said already, I do beg the Inspector-General and the Hon. Minister not to be carried away merely by financial considerations but to get at the root of the evil in their department and not to adopt superficial and even irrelevent remedies which will make the evils already existing worse than they are now."

* Mr. K. P. Raman Menon:—" Mr. Deputy President, I may be allowed to say a few words on this Demand. As Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar has just said, I have great pleasure in stating that so far as the Malabar district is concerned, the registering offices with perhaps one exception or so are perfectly honest, and that is really attributable to the fact not only that the officers are men of good character but also to the presence of a large number of sub-registry officers scattered over the district close to the residence of the people concerned. It is no exaggeration to say that for a distance of 6 or 7 miles one sub-registrar's office is to be found in the Malabar district. If you can by any process

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multiply the sub-registry offices in other districts to the same extent as in Malabar, I am certain that corruption will be greatly minimized. But it is pointed out that the cost is prohibitive. It is also stated that even as it is the Malabar district is not paying its way so far as registration is concerned. But I may be allowed to put in a special plea on behalf of Malabar in this regard. I ask, does Malabar absorb any money for irrigation, does Malabar take away the provincial revenues in various other matters? I have been told by Sir Archibald Campbell that Malabar is one of the districts that not only pays its way for the administration of the district but leaves a profit in the hands of the Government. Then, why not take some of those profits and use it to make up the deficit so far as registration is concerned? Be that as it may, supposing people want more registration offices, I would go the length of suggesting that you may run the risk of raising the fees so that the registration offices may not be reduced. Ordinarily every transfer of property and every deed pertaining to other transactions has to be registered. When the law is so very clear on the point and people are compelled to register their documents, they should be given all facilities for registration. But if registration offices are situated 40 miles and more apart, what are the people to do? Suppose I go to a sub-registrar's office far away to register a document and the sub-registrar says he is very busy and he has so many other documents to register, then I will have to go back to my place and return to the sub-registrar's office again on another day, which will mean another Rs. 10 or Rs. 15 of expenditure. In such a case, I will rather pay a higher registration fee and have the document registered than go back. For the matter of that, a man who is not able to register his document the same day but who has come back again has to pay the bus fare for his people, for the witnesses and for all else concerned. That perhaps will be much more costly than any excess registration fee that the Government may demand. I would therefore go the length of saying that even if it is found necessary to levy a higher registration fee you should by no means reduce the number of registration offices. You may dispense with district charges, you may throw more work on the Inspector-General, I do not mind. But don't reduce the registration offices which besides serve as a sort of civilizing centre in the villages. Only if you have registration offices as broad-cast as possible within easy reach of the people, then alone you can stop this canker of corruption."

* Mr. V. P. Narayanan Nambiyar:—" Mr. Deputy President, Sir, when last year the same Demand was under discussion, I pointed out that it will not be wise to reduce the sub-registry offices. Yet the clouds that had gathered last year have but thickened this year. In answer to an interpellation the Hon. the Minister said this morning that the question of reducing nearly hundred sub-offices is actually under consideration. Also, I have received letters from Malabar to say that the Inspector-General, when he very recently went to that district, visited even distant sub-offices like Naduvannur and Balusseri to work

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out preliminaries connected with closure. When some days back the budget was generally discussed, the Hon. the Leader of the Opposition and my hon. Friend Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar had urged with great force that to close down sub-offices is to pursue a wrong policy. That is so for very important reasons. The first reason is that the sub-registry office is an office which comes everyday into direct touch with the people. Ordinarily, the office, except on Sundays, has daily to come into contact with the public. It cannot be forgotten that the registration department is a service department, and, therefore, service to public and not saving to Government should be the guiding factor. The second reason is that closing down of sub-offices will increase complaints of corruption. As I said last year, in the year 1920, hon. 12-15 p.m. Members then representing Ceded Districts in the Legislative Council got up and said that corruption was rampant in Ceded Districts, whereas the hon. Member from Malabar, then Diwan Bahadur Krishnan Nayar, said that there was no corruption in Malabar. The difference in version is because in the district of Malabar for 72½ square miles there is a sub-registrar's office, whereas in the Ceded Districts there is only one office for 440 square miles. My hon. Friend, Mr. Koti Reddi, when he spoke last time gave an ultimatum of one year to Government. The year has passed, but the complaint continues. The third reason is that it ought to be the aim of Government to minimize litigation as far as possible. That can to some extent be achieved by providing facilities to register even documents not compulsorily registerable. The last reason and a very important reason is the unemployment in the province. Is there any other country in the world where we witness the sad spectacle of tens of thousands of young men of education and ability without having anything to do? Is that not a great factor to be taken into account?

"It may be said that the revenue of the department is not satisfactory. But an examination of the figures from 1920 proves that the course of the revenue of the department has not been one of progressive decline. In years of depression it is hut natural that there should be some decline. Again, in assessing whether the department is self-supporting or not, credit must be given to the free work that is being done for co-operative societies and the land mortgage banks. Malabar has been said to be not a self-supporting district as far as registration is concerned. I agree with my hon. Friend, Mr. Raman Menon, in the view that in taking into account revenue, Government ought not to put departments into water-tight compartments. Not a pie has been spent in Malabar on minor irrigation works, but when the turn of registration department comes, it is urged that the district by itself should be self-supporting. That is not the correct attitude. However, as has been said by my hon. Friend, Mr. Raman Menon, even at the risk of putting up the fee for registration sub-registry offices should not be closed. With a view to economize the travelling allowance of the Inspector-General a number of district offices has already been reduced. The photostat system has also been introduced with the same

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object. That system is still in an experimental stage. When the system is still in an experimental stage, why should Government push on retrenchment measures?

"Here, with all the emphasis that I can command, I must refer to a very sad aspect connected with the photostat system. What is it that is happening to-day in South Malabar? Twenty-eight permanent clerks are to be sent out on the 1st of April. I ask whether the Hon. the Minister does not owe a duty in the matter? In the year 1934 when the question was raised on the floor of the House the answer of the Minister was 'I am afraid the hon. Members seem to be under a misapprehension because not a single clerk has been sent out on account of the introduction of the photostat system. Sixty-four clerks would have gone out if the photo system had proved a success. As I said, we propose to try it for two years and in the meantime, we do not send anybody. Even if it proves a success, these sixty-four men will be absorbed elsewhere.' (Vide page 167, Proceedings of 13th March 1934.) Where is the assurance that was given in 1934? Again the Hon. Minister in 1935 said 'Certainly Government will see that in introducing or expanding this system to other districts, nothing detrimental to those who are employed in the department happens.' This promise ought to be a matter of gravest concern with Government. The clerks have put in long years of faithful service and have been given a definite assurance that nothing would affect their interests. Sir, from the time the present Inspector-General of Registration took charge of his office there has been nothing but praise for him from all sections of the House. Let not now a new chapter, a sad chapter be opened and let it not be said that clerks who have served loyally and truly all these years are nowhere. I appeal to the Justice Minister to do justice to the South Malabar clerks."

Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari:—" Mr. Deputy President, I am really surprised to hear in reply to some questions put to-day that some more sub-registrars' offices are going to be abolished. Sir, in South Malabar we have got 41 sub-registrars and in North Malabar 31 sub-registrars. The income from the former in 1934 was Rs. 1,68,237 and from the latter Rs. 1,29,595; whereas in Guntur we have got only 25 sub-registrars and the income was Rs. 1,59,908. Thus it will be seen though we have the lowest number of officers, we are paying more money to Government. So, if there is to be any retrenchment, it ought to be in districts where there are more sub-registrars but where the receipts are less. Then as regards corruption, the Inspector-General has pointed out that for want of adequate number of sub-registrars' offices corruption is taking place. No doubt it is a fact. As the offices are located at distant places, the ryot population who go there want to finish off their work if possible the same day to avoid the trouble and inconvenience of a long journey and so they may pay some money to finish their business. There is also another reason for this corruption. For want of proper establishment in the sub-registrar's office the sub-registrar has to be at the mercy of the clerks. Generally one sub-registrar has two or three clerks under him. The work is too much

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for them to finish within the office hours. If they have to finish the whole work, they will have to sit till 8 o'clock. I have seen instances where clerks have been working from morning 7 till 8 o'clock in the evening, though they are not expected to work after 6 o'clock in the evening. But they have to work like this to clear off their arrears. If the sub-registrar is going to insist on the clerks to be honest, they may not care to co-operate with him, and if the work becomes slack, the Inspector-General or the District Registrar may take action against the sub-registrar concerned without knowing the details. So I suggest that the minimum quota of registration work may be fixed. Whenever there is excess, more offices should be opened. If that is done, I think it will go a great way to reduce corruption. Already the Government are contemplating to increase the charge on application forms to 2 annas and appeals to 10 rupees. Already the ryots are feeling the burden of various taxations. I don't know if the Minister who is supposed to represent the popular party would start immediately by way of executive orders to increase these fees and thus impose additional taxation on the over-burdened ryots.

"Another thing which I want to bring to the notice of the Hon. Minister is this. In my district there are clerks in this department who have been acting for the last 12 years or so. They are not confirmed all these years, though several representations have been made by them. There are about 10 clerks who have put in 10 years' service and there are 4 clerks who have put in more than 12 years' service. Nearly half of their official life is over and I don't know when they can expect to be confirmed. Last November I wrote a letter to Government about this matter, but I have not received any reply till to-day, though four months have elapsed. I thought that instead of discussing this on a cut motion I could get a reply by writing that letter. As no reply has been received, I have to bring it to the Hon. Minister's notice now, and I hope in his reply to this debate he will give the reasons why such things are going on.

"There are several places wherefrom the ryots have to walk more than 25 miles to reach a sub-registrar's office. There are 20 places like that out of 25 sub-registrars' offices in our district. I was told that the Inspector-General of Registration has issued a circular to the District Registrars asking them to send up proposals for the closure of all rented offices. I strongly protest against such a course of action, and I appeal to the Hon. Minister to see that no sub-registrar's office is closed as the present number is already inadequate to meet the requirements. I personally feel that in no district any office should be closed but if they want to close any, it must be in districts where 12—
they are in excess and where the income therefrom is less. I also P.M.
suggest that the Government may open some sub-registry offices in the Guntur district in places like Kollur, Nizampet, etc. The people of this district have already made several representations to the Hon. Minister for this purpose. With these observations, I once again support the cut motion."

* Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—" Mr. Deputy President, the Hon. Minister has created an atmosphere far from favourable for the discussion of this demand by stating during question-time that there is a proposal to reduce as many as one hundred sub-registry offices under the consideration of Government. Sir, up to the year 1931, they were opening at least as many as six sub-registry offices every year. After that, on account of financial stringency, Government put a stop to the opening of new offices. In 1934 retrenchment to the extent of Rs. 7 lakhs was effected as we see from the report. Last year, during budget discussion, the Hon. Minister stated that new offices will be opened and itinerating officers also will be appointed if there is necessity and there is sufficient work justifying that course and if the neighbouring offices did not work at a deficit as the result of opening new offices. I wish to add my voice to the voice of those who have spoken previous to me in asking that there should be no reduction in the number of offices and that, on the other hand, more facilities for registration should be given to the people by opening more offices. Attention has already been drawn to the fact that, in the matter of distribution of offices, all districts are not treated on an equitable basis: Telugu districts for instance have much less number of offices (Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari: 'Hear, hear') compared with the Tamil districts. The Ceded Districts and South Kanara have lesser number of offices than many of the other districts and therefore there is a great demand especially in those districts for more offices. People are put to very great inconvenience, expense and trouble on account of the lack of a sufficient number of sub-registry offices.

" Another difficulty is about the inadequacy of the clerical staff. Up to the year 1931, during heavy seasons, temporary establishments were provided at an average cost of Rs. 37,000 per year. After that, they put a stop to that. I find from the report that several of the District Registrars are bitterly complaining about this matter. Among them is the District Registrar of South Kanara. There is a great need for additional establishment in many of the sub-registry offices. Government ought either to increase the permanent establishment or at least revive the temporary establishment so as to give relief to such offices as require relief.

" One of the hon. Members made a reference to the photostat system of copying documents. I believe that some time ago the system of photo copying was introduced in some of the districts and it is still under trial. An improved system called the photostat system is being tried in South Malabar for the last two years. I desire to ask the Hon. Minister in this connexion, how far these experiments have been a success. I find on a perusal of the proceedings of the Bombay Legislative Council that, last year, during budget time, some Members referred to this matter. They said that after an experience of 12 years the system of photo-copying has been found to be unsatisfactory. The prints are fading; there is perceptible deterioration in the print and that a magnifying glass is required to read the copies. The Inspector-General

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of Registration said that it was not quite correct to say that there has been such great deterioration in print, and yet, he admitted that the whole system was in an experimental stage. About five or six years ago, a new method of photo-copying, namely, the cine camera method, was introduced and that gave more satisfaction. But both the systems are still under trial. Be it remembered, Sir, that he said this after an experience of 12 years. I wish to ask the Hon. Minister how far this system tried in South Malabar and elsewhere has been a success and to what extent economies could be effected as a result of the introduction of this system; and, if economy could be effected, whether that money would be utilized for opening new offices. The Hon. Minister said that the department has been suffering from loss. As pointed out by the hon. Members who spoke before me this loss is to a great extent due to the concessions given to the Co-operative department. The department has been losing as much as 1¼ lakhs every year as a result of the concessions given to the Co-operative department. If the Government would make good this loss, there will be little or no deficit."

* Mr. M. S. SRESHTA:—" Sir, the information given this morning by the Hon. Minister that a number of sub-registry offices would be closed down is very disquieting. It is very discouraging to get this information now, in view of the fact that the Inspector-General of Registration had made a recommendation in the last year's report that the number of offices in South Kanara should be increased. South Kanara is one of the districts in which the number of registration offices is very small. Compared with Malabar, you will notice that the number of offices in South Kanara is very small, whereas the level of honesty is said to be very high in the former and very low in the latter. (Laughter.) The reason is that the work in the sub-registry offices in South Kanara is so heavy that there is temptation to be corrupt. I may say, Sir, that this is not my own view. I am only stating the opinion of the department. They have stated in their report that the more the number of offices the less the temptation to be corrupt. Applying this principle to South Kanara, I do not see any reason why more offices should not be opened there especially as communications are very poor in the whole district. The Inspector-General of Registration has visited the different places in South Kanara and I am sure he will support our contention that in that district, in view of the local conditions, more offices are required.

" Sir, there is widespread complaint that there is very heavy work in the offices on account of the inadequacy of the staff. In view of these circumstances it is unfortunate that this decision to reduce the number should have been made. I hope that in view of the representations made here, the Hon. Minister will reconsider the matter.

" Then I come to the photostat system. I said last year that however useful the system may be, we ought to consider the human aspect of the matter and not turn out of employment a number of clerks. I suggested that if the system is to be introduced, the clerks who would have to be ousted should be provided other jobs. If the introduction of

this new system entailed the discontinuance from service of a number of clerks, I would retain the clerks and the existing system of copying documents. I think it is possible, however, to introduce the new system and yet provide appointment for all the subordinates now in service. There are so many ministerial officers appointed newly every year. Would it not be possible to reduce the number of new recruits to the extent necessary to provide these men with jobs? In any new system that we introduce, we should not forget the human aspect of the question. When we consider the question of introducing machinery to replace human agency, one great objection is the effect it will have on the men it will throw out of employment. So long as a proper adjustment is not possible in regard to labour, I think we ought to be careful about introducing new ideas of this sort. I trust the Hon. Minister, who knows the local conditions thoroughly, supported by the hon. Secretary of the department who is extremely sympathetic in matters of this sort, will have this matter reviewed.

"Then I come to the question of G.O. No. 468, dated 10th September 1934. Some time back the practice was to recruit only about 25 per cent of the clerks as sub-registrars. Then it was thought that the clerks should be given more encouragement and a rule was passed that at least 50 per cent of the posts of sub-registrars should be given to the clerks. While this sympathetic rule was made there was another rule also made to the effect that only such clerks who obtained 45 per cent marks in English in the Secondary School-Leaving Certificate Examination should be appointed. Against this latter rule there was an agitation and I represented the matter to the Secretary of the department, Mr. Boag. He very sympathetically went into the matter and got the rule modified so as to make it not applicable retrospectively to persons who were appointed some years back and who at the time of the appointment had not been expected to obtain 45 per cent in English. I am glad to say that the modified Government Order—I am not sure about its number—set matters right in the majority of cases. I gather, however, that in a few cases even this modified Government Order has not had the desired effect. I shall be very much obliged to the Hon. Minister and his Secretary if they will go into the matter and see that even in these few cases the grievance is rectified."

45 * Mr. G. R. PREMAYYA:—"Mr. Deputy President, Sir, several hon.
1. Members have spoken on this subject and there is very little for me to say. If at all anything could be said, it is only a reiteration of what has already been said. But I wish to speak on one aspect of the question. It was said by several hon. Members that the number of clerks in each office of this department is very limited. On one occasion it was said that the clerks go to their work early in the morning and come home late in the night; so much so, they are about to be unrecognized by their children. Sir, it is a fact that these clerks work very hard during the day. My hon. Friend, Mr. Krishnayya Choudari, told us that several men in the department were working late in the night. Unless something is done to relieve these clerks of their

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heavy work it will be very difficult for them to go on working for longer hours. In some cases although the clerks have been working in the department for the last 10, 11 or 12 years, they have not yet been confirmed. When the authorities were told about this matter by the poor clerks, they were informed that they had to work temporarily for some more years. If that is the state of things in the department, I think there must be something wrong somewhere. Before long, I submit that it must be remedied.

"The next thing that I wish to touch upon is this: I heard that Government are going to close some of the sub-registration offices. With the present staff we have in this department, there is much corruption. I agree with my hon. Friend, Mr. Koti Reddi—he is not in his place here now—in what all he said with regard to this department. I wish to know whether there is any office in this department without any corruption at all. Some hon. Members have said that there is no corruption at all in Malabar. I doubt it. That there is corruption in that district might not have reached the ears of hon. Members of this Council. If you go and ask the poor ryots or the poor people they will readily say that there is corruption there even now. My hon. Friend, Mr. Raman Menon, said that 'with one exception,' there is no corruption at all in Malabar. So there is exception there too. So unless and until something is done to wipe out the corruption in the department, there is no hope at all for the poor people to get their things done without much cost and trouble to them. With these few words, I resume my seat."

* Sriman M. G. PATNAIK Mahasayo:—"I think the Government are treating this department as a commercial proposition and seem to think that unless they are able to derive some profit or at least make the department self-supporting, they must abolish some of the offices. I think that is not the correct view to be taken. So far as registration is concerned, it is not optional. But it is compulsory. If one wants to enter into a transaction he must have his documents registered; otherwise the transaction is not valid in law. So it is compulsory. Under those circumstances it is the duty of the Government to provide for registration offices even at a loss. The police stations are maintained in several places even at a loss to the Government for the maintenance of law and order, and I see no reason why when you make registration compulsory you should not provide for more sub-registration offices. Now the people have to go to long distances for registering their documents for want of sub-registration offices near their place. So far as I can see the Government have been opening offices in the past wherever they found there was a necessity, no matter whether there was profit or loss. Now the department seems to have drawn their inspiration from the backward Province of Bihar and Orissa where they make a lot of profit from this department. I understand that in Bihar and Orissa they have a large number of deputy collectors to do the work, which revenue inspectors and deputy tahsildars and tahsildars do in Madras. I am not sure whether this Government would follow Bihar and Orissa in that respect also by increasing the number of

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deputy collectors. So I request the Government to bear this one important point in their minds, viz., whether the Registration department works at a profit or loss, they must not abolish the existing offices. Now the reason for the Registration department working at a loss seems to me to be that the Co-operative department has been given some facilities. I would suggest that these concessions be reduced rather than abolishing some of the registration offices. In the last resort if you do not find this is possible, you may even raise the registration fees rather than abolishing the offices. All these aspects, I hope, will be taken into consideration before the Government commit the blunder of abolishing some of the offices."

* Khan Bahadur Mahmud Schamnad Sahib Bahadur:—"Last year we were told that photo-copying system had been introduced in four districts, viz., (1) East Godavari, (2) Guntur, (3) Chingleput and (4) Malabar, as it was found a success in America and England. Nearer home they found it also successful in the Bombay Presidency. We were told last year that this system was still in an experimental stage. We want to know whether the Government, after all, has decided that it could be permanently introduced in this province. The Hon. Minister told us last year that one of the reasons for introducing this system was that there was no fading and it was also cheaper. I hear that in several places where it has been introduced, it has been found to fade. So it is not successful in that respect. Sir, it was stated that there was a deficit of Rs. 44,000 in Malabar district and that was the reason for the introduction of the photostat system there. I want to know whether after the introduction of that system the deficit has been made up. Another thing that I wish to know in this connexion is with regard to the question of unemployment. What does the Government propose to do with those clerks who have been discharged from their service in the department? Last year the Government told us that these clerks would be absorbed. I understand that there are yet some who have not been absorbed. Government sent some of these clerks to sub-registry offices in South Kanara where the vernacular is Kanarese and these clerks complained that they did not know Kanarese. Then they were asked to learn Kanarese. But the time spent in learning Kanarese is wasted. Moreover after this hasty learning of Kanarese their writing is so illegible that it is very difficult to read the copies written by them. This is a very unsatisfactory state of affairs. These clerks must be absorbed in other departments or in the same department, and they must be posted to offices where the prevailing language is the same as the one they know.

"It has been pointed out by my hon. Friend, Mr. Koti Reddi, that there is much corruption in the department in the Ceded districts. It was said by my hon. Friend, Mr. Raman Menon, that there is no corruption in Malabar but for one exception. But I may say that though in South Kanara the exception may be more than one, yet it is much better than the Ceded districts. When I referred in this House some years back to the corruption prevailing in this department, there was lot of agitation all over the country and meetings were held and

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esolutions were passed protesting against that statement. My Friend, ɪr. Koti Reddi, has been speaking about this subject for the last so nany years but yet no protest has been made by the sub-registrars in he Ceded districts or anywhere else. Does it not mean that there is eally corruption in the Ceded districts, etc.? Otherwise there is no eason why they should keep quiet, in spite of the fact that such conlemnatory and denunciatory speeches are being made against them in his House. I think the department concerned will take note of this act and see that corruption is put down as much as possible. One of he reasons for this corruption, it was pointed out, was the inadequacy f the suh-registration offices. We have been pointing out the inidequacy of those offices year after year. In South Kanara the number f offices is much less than is required. I was told by the Inspector-General some time back that some more offices were proposed to be pened in South Kanara. Later on I was told for want of funds the Government did not sanction the proposal and so the Inspector-General ould not open the offices as proposed. Owing to the paucity of ufficient number of sub-registrars' offices in South Kanara, a large umber of documents are executed unregistered and as unregistered locuments are not recognized in courts people suffer loss. I was surprised his morning when I was told by the Hon. Minister in charge that more han 100 offices were going to be abolished. I agree with my hon. Friend, Mr. Raman Menon, in that even if the registration fee is raised, we do ot mind, provided the number of offices is sufficiently increased, ecause the loss sustained by the people on account of non-registration vould be much more than a few rupees more to be spent by way of nhanced registration fees and mamul. Moreover, I do not think it will e a loss to the Government so far as South Kanara is concerned if they pen more registration offices there. In South Kanara I can say there vill be sufficient work and there will be no loss at all. Last year we vere told that Government had no objection to open new offices provided here was sufficient work for them and provided also they did not attract vork from other offices causing deficit in these offices. I can assure the Government that in South Kanara it will not be so. Till now there has been no loss at all and on the other hand they are making profits there.

"Now about the new proposal of charging As. 2 for every search 1 p.
made, it is a new thing first of all. We have been complaining that the charges for encumbrance certificates are too high. But the Government have introduced an additional fee, a fee of 2 annas for every application for search and so on. In answer to a question given this morning the Government have said that the fee is intended to cover the cost of the printed forms of application. I think, Sir, that it is very unjust to charge that fee. We do not want the printed forms; if the Government want us to apply in their own forms and charge us 2 annas for each form, they might as well say that we should put such applications on stamp papers valued at Rs. 2 and so on. I submit that we shall apply on our own forms and we cannot pay the Government for these forms. We were getting these things before without paying any fees and we cannot pay any fees for them now. Again, Sir, they charge

Rs. 7-8-0 for an encumbrance certificate and there also there are difficulties. If the same owner has lands in two or three villages or pattas he is charged separately for each village or patta. That is a hardship also.

"I request the Hon. Minister to take these difficulties into consideration and try to remove them. With these words, I support the motion."

* Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. Patro:—"Sir, I have been very patiently listening to the discussion of this very important branch of public service but I fail to understand whether the charge of corruption in this department is well-founded. I would be certainly very sorry if the morale of the Registration department was such as has been described to us by the hon. Member from Cuddapah. I have listened to his eloquent speech and tried to find out whether he had any arguments in support of his proposition, but I could discover only that his whole proposition hung round a particular case said to have been known to him or brought to his knowledge in 1922. It is on that particular case, Sir, that he has based all his vehement arguments."

Mr. K. Koti Reddi:—"I know many instances."

* Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. Patro:—"The hon. Member says he knows many instances. It would have been more profitable if in the course of his 20 minutes' speech he had taken us into his confidence and given us more such instances. But no such information was furnished to the House to justify the very startling statement made by him with regard to this department. For this reason, I deprecate and deprecate very strongly that hon. Members should make themselves responsible for such statements. Such statements should not be made unless they are supported by definite evidence and I have already said that in regard to the statement made in this House on this subject there has not been any definite evidence for it; no particular instance of corruption has been brought to our notice. Of course there are black sheep in this department as in every other department. My hon. Friend from Cuddapah is very much acquainted with the working of the Revenue Department; has he not complained from time to time that subordinate revenue officers are not above board? Therefore to make allegations here against a whole department while he is not in a position to substantiate them is absolutely unfair, unfair to this House and unfair to the department. The department, Sir, under the vigilant eye of its head has been growing fairer. If there has been any instance of corruption, if any person in the department has been misbehaving himself, it would have been easy for the hon. Member or for anybody for the matter of that, to draw the attention of the head of the department to that fact and he would have taken the necessary action. The absence of any complaint to the head of the department from any quarter shows that the case put forward by the hon. Member has no substance to support it. Again, Sir, has it been possible for anybody here to bring to the notice of the House and the Government any particular case of corruption during question time? For the question time is a very

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important opportunity for hon. Members to bring to the notice of the Government any particular case of wrong or injustice or misdemeanour that has occurred in any department. But during the last few years and during this year also, no such instance has been brought to the notice of the Government. Therefore, Sir, no such instance having been brought to the notice of the Government and the House during all these years, it seems to me unjustifiable that the theory of corruption should be trotted out here at this late hour. I am sure, Sir, if the attention of the head of the department has been drawn to any such black sheep who may be there, he would have taken the necessary action. I wish to warn hon. Members that if they make such allegations of corruption which are not supported by facts, it would react on them and not on the department. It will discourage honest and conscientious workers from discharging their duties efficiently. It will be no incentive to them. It would react on the whole country if charges of this kind are brought forward with no evidence to support them.

"Then there is the other question raised in the debate to-day, namely, the reduction of the registration offices. Sir, I strongly deprecate the Government's policy of reducing the number of registration offices. By so doing they are not going to increase the facilities for the registering public and the public generally. If they think that there would he a large saving to the Government by the reduction of the offices they are very much mistaken. As has been pointed out, this is not merely like the Postal department or other public service department. There is a statutory obligation cast by the statutes of this House and of the Acts of the Government of India. For instance under the Transfer of Property Act leases above a certain period have to be registered; mortgages have to be registered in a particular way. All transactions of contracts have to be registered under the Indian Contracts Act. There are various other cases where compulsory registration is required, where an obligation is imposed on the public to get certain documents registered or certified by a notary public. In the circumstances it seems to me that the Government are following a very suicidal policy in reducing the number of registration offices. Suppose they want to reduce the number of offices by 100, I ask where are they going to reduce them from? Are there more offices in any particular area than are necessary so that we may remove a few? Sir, this is a necessary service for the public and if you deprive the public of the necessary facilities how would you expect them to have their documents registered as required by laws? It is not a question of finance; it is a question of necessity. Just as you provide the necessary finance to run the other necessary departments, you must provide the necessary finance to run this department also and strengthen it. I know the difficulty. For instance, if the departmental head sends up a proposal for opening new offices, what does the Finance Department do? The Finance Department asks for statistics as to the number of documents likely to be registered and whether the office is likely to be self-sufficient. If it finds from the statistics that the new office will not be

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self-sufficient it turns down the proposal. What can the head of th department do? What can the Minister do? If the Minister accept the thing, he is a good man; if he fights he is a bad man. Therefor the Minister who has to speak on behalf of the public will have t strengthen himself by the public opinion expressed here in this Hous and argue with the Finance Department and tell them that it is not case merely of rupees, annas and pies, that it is a case of a public utilit service, a service of public necessity and that on that ground th Finance Department is bound to sanction the funds necessary for it Otherwise the policy of the Government must be discussed in th Cabinet with a view to see that the greater facilities which the publi ask for in the shape of more registration offices are provided for them Again, Sir, certain charges are proposed to be levied by the department. I ask whether it is consistent with the policy of reducing the number of offices. Therefore, Sir, I deprecate the Government's polic of reducing the number of offices. In fact it is the unanimous desire of the whole House in this matter that the policy of the Governmen in this respect should be reversed. More facilities should be providec for the public. Instead of that, if the Government want to deprive the public of even the few facilities that they have, it will be wrong and an insult to the public. Every year we have been pressing on the Government to open more offices and the reply of the Government now is to reduce even the existing offices. We have been asking for bread and what do the Government give us? Stone! I ask: Are the Government conscious of the needs of the agricultural people, the rural people? It is in the interests of the agricultural population, the ignorant, uneducated rural people that we want more offices. Now, Sir, if this department is cut down in this manner, it will be really disastrous What will be the effect on these people when the registration offices to which they have been accustomed to go near at hand are abolishec and they are forced to go to much greater distances at considerable expense to get their documents registered? I ask: what will be the effect on these people? This House is right in pressing on the Government that all reasonable facilities should be given to the rural population; otherwise the rural population will think that this Council is not here for the purpose of assisting them and providing facilities but for the purpose of hindering them. Therefore it is on behalf of the rural population that we urge that not only the existing offices should be maintained but more offices opened. As my hon. Friend, Mr. Ranganatha Mudaliyar, an experienced Member pointed out, if there is any corruption in the department one remedy for it is to have more and more offices in order to improve the tone and morale of the department. If, on the other hand, the Government adopt a policy of depriving the rural population of the facilities they have, they will find themselves in a very difficult position. Therefore I agree with my hon. Friend in thinking that Government must think twice before they abolish any of the existing offices. On the other hand for the purpose of improving the morale of the department they should see that as many offices as possible are opened and that they are as near to the registering public as possible."

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* The DEPUTY PRESIDENT:—" The hon. Member Mr. Khalif-ul-lah may take four minutes as the Hon. Minister has to reply at 1-20 p.m."

* Khan Bahadur P. KHALIF-UL-LAH SAHIB Bahadur:—" Mr. Deputy President, Sir, I thank you for letting me have four minutes for saying a few words on this demand. Regarding the question of corruption, I have heard too many complaints in this House, but as one who has had some touch with the working of the registration offices, I may say that corruption is growing less and less, thanks to the vigilance of the heads of the department and to the growing sense of honesty among the Sub-Registrars. I may say that the corruption to-day is not as bad as it was some years back. I do not think there is any justification for the cry that corruption is growing more and more.

" Since my time is very limited, I shall touch on one other point, namely, the remark that fell from my hon. Friend, Mr. Ranganatha Mudaliyar, regarding inspecting officers. I completely agree with him that the inspecting officers would do well to get into touch with the public of the place which they inspect and not merely restrict themselves to the four walls of the Sub-Registrars' offices, do their routine duty and go back with their own impressions of the working of the offices. Real and true impression they can get only by mingling with the people of each locality and by getting into touch with them; by doing so, they will have correct impression of the working of these offices. It is only then they can get at the truth as to how each sub-office is working in the locality, whether it is giving satisfaction to the public and how the public who have recourse to these offices are dealt with. All these matters pertaining to the real and proper working of these offices can be got at only by these inspecting officers getting into touch with the local men. I would strongly urge on the Hon. Minister impressing the necessity on the part of inspecting officers getting into touch with local men. With these words I close my remarks."

* The Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—" Mr. Deputy President, Sir, criticisms of hon. Members were directed mainly against two matters. One is the possible reduction of the number of Sub-Registrars' offices. The second is the levy of fees that have been recently introduced. I can see from the suggestions that were made by various hon. Members that facilities to the public should be further increased and if that is not possible the existing facilities should not be curtailed. It was very forcibly pointed out by various hon. Members that any curtailment in the existing facilities will lead to corruption. The proposed reduction in the number of offices or in the alternative, possible increase in the scale of fees is mainly due to a desire to balance the budget of the department. The financial position of the department is not satisfactory as it is working at a deficit, taking no doubt all the indirect charges, such as pensionary charges, interest on outlay on buildings, etc. For the last two years the department is working at a deficit. Figures can be got from the administration reports; as the time at my disposal is short, I will not trouble the Members with minute details.

"It must be remembered that the expenditure on registration in this province is high, in comparison with other provinces. The percentage for Madras is 93 per cent; 93 per cent of our receipts from the department is spent on the department in this province as against 39 per cent and 74 per cent in Bombay and Bengal. I know that the department is meant for rendering service; but for that service we have to pay; we cannot have it without payment. I quite agree that this department should not make any profit; of course it is the duty of the department to render the necessary help and service required by the people. The Government will no doubt take into consideration the strong views expressed by various hon. Members in arriving at the decision with reference to the possible reduction in the number of Sub-Registrars' offices. As I said, Sir, certainly my sympatbies are in the direction of giving all possible facilities to the people. As has been pointed out at the time of the general budget discussion, the scale of fees charged by this province is very low, compared with the scale of fees charged in Bombay and Bengal.

"It has been pointed out by various Members that a number of offices are undermanned, and that necessary relief should be given. In order to give that relief, without directly increasing the scale of fees we are having recourse to indirect taxation which should not be felt by the people much. The income that is derived from the levy of these fees will be spent for giving necessary relief to the overworked staff in some offices.

"I should like to reply to the suggestions of various hon. Members within the time at my disposal. My hon. Friend, Mr. Koti Reddi, said that there was corruption. He says one way of putting down corruption is to increase the number of offices, or to have more itinerating officers. I am prepared to consider the suggestion to give facilities by adopting the itinerary system. His suggestion that this work should be entrusted to Tahsildars and Deputy Tahsildars is not possible of adoption as they have already too much work and cannot take up this work without additional staff. As regards the other suggestion that if persons with higher qualifications were appointed, it is likely to decrease corruption, that has been met by my hon. Friend, Mr. Ranganatha Mudaliyar. It was suggested that the promotion of clerks as Sub-Registrars would reduce corruption. I do not think that, by merely promoting clerks as Sub-Registrars, we will be able to put down corruption. The principle that efficient and deserving clerks should be promoted has been recognized by the Government and they have set apart 25 per cent of the vacancies for clerks to be promoted as Sub-Registrars.

"My hon. Friend suggested the constitution of a committee for going into the question, a committee of gazetted officers and non-officials. I do not know whether the constitution of such a committee is going to be of any help. It is even now open to hon. Members of this House and others to bring to the notice of the head of the department any cases of corruption or cases in which things are done against rules. If such cases are brought to the notice of the head of the department, he will surely consider them carefully.

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" One other point which my hon. Friend Mr. Koti Reddi urged is that it is not possible for a document to be registered at tbe headquarters in Cuddapah, for the simple reason that Chittoor and Cuddapah are combined together and that the headquarters are located in Chittoor. I shall be glad to look into the question carefully and to take necessary action. Mr. Deputy President, Sir, I will take ten minutes more."

* The Deputy President:—" The Hon. Minister may continue his speech after lunch interval. The Council will now adjourn and meet again at 2-30 p.m."

After Lunch—2-30 p.m.

* The Hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan:—" Sir, I was referring to the suggestion made by my hon. Friend, Mr. Ranganatha Mudaliyar, that the District Registrars should get into touch when they go on tour with respectable people in the different localities, so that they might be of help in putting down corruption. As far as I can see, when these District Registrars go on tour, they will hardly have any time to make friends with people in the locality and find out the local conditions. They will have their hands full with inspecting the sub-registry offices and so on. Anyhow, as the suggestion has now been made, it will be conveyed to the various officers, so that they may get into touch with the people if they have the necessary leisure, and try to enlist their co-operation in putting down corruption. When I am on this question of corruption, I may perhaps state that the whole trouble is that the people themselves do not see that inducements are not offered to the subordinates. My friend, Mr. Koti Reddi, suggested that a murderer in order to escape, may try to bribe the police official, and that in the case of the Registration Department, in order to get work done quickly and in a short time, people may offer some money to these subordinates. Sir, it will be better if people do not throw temptations to the subordinates but follow the practice of 'first come, first served.' It will be quite all right if people are prepared to come in their turn to get their work done; but unfortunately, it sometimes becomes a question of prestige with people of status and wealth to go to the sub-registry offices and to demand that their work should be attended to first. It is in that way that the poorer classes suffer. I would suggest, Sir, in these circumstances, that the people themselves should see to it that they do not give any room for corruption or allow men of postition to have their work done in preference to those who might have come before them.

" Sir, coming to the question of retrenchment of a number of clerks in the Malabar district as a result of the introduction of the photostat system, in all 64 clerks had to be retrenched; and in pursuance of the promise made on the floor of this House, we have seen to it that 36 clerks out of those 64 have been provided for, and we have also taken steps by sending circulars to the heads of other departments, to absorb

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the remaining men as soon as possible. Unfortunately, during the period stipulated, from the date of the Government Order up till now, these men could not be absorbed. In this connexion, I should like to say a word about the representatives of Malabar, especially my Friend, Mr. Narayanan Nambiyar, who has been worrying me in season and out of season—if I may be allowed to use that phrase—to consider the case of these poor clerks. As I said, we have done all that we could, and I am prepared to further look into the matter of the remaining 28 clerks; if anything can be done, I shall be glad to have it done. I do not, however, think that I can give any promise, that all of them will be provided for. But to this extent I make the promise that I will further examine the question whether and how they can be absorbed. Another difficulty that has stood in the way of these men being absorbed is that they could not be posted to any other district for the reason that there is the language difficulty.

" Then, Sir, my friend Mr. Shetty asked me whether the two systems, the photostat and the cine-film systems, are a success. I may say that the two systems are in force now, and according to the information obtained from the Inspector-General of Registration, they are working satisfactorily. The Inspector-General has recommended that these two systems should be made permanent. That question is however under consideration. The photostat system was introduced in Malabar for the simple reason that the department was working at a deficit in Malabar; and as a result of the introduction of this system, although we could not get the income anticipated, it has been a success to this extent at least, that the deficit has now disappeared and there is some income, though not much. It is not now proposed to extend the systems to other districts; when the time comes, when funds are available, the photostat system will be introduced in other places. I may add that whatever economy is affected it will be utilized to give greater conveniences to the public by affording much more facilities to them than now.

" My friend Mr. Schamnad referred to the fact that some clerks were transferred from Malabar to South Kanara and that they did not know the language. I may inform the hon. Member that it was reported that the South Kanara district was undermanned, and the Inspector-General proposed that the clerical staff of that district should get some relief. He recommended that as the North Malabar district was overmanned some ten clerks might be transferred to South Kanara. It is understood that out of the ten clerks so transferred, eight had already been working in the South Kanara district, as the result of a temporary arrangement made by the Inspector-General previously, that one of them is a Kanarese man and I may state that these postings were made with a due regard to the language of the district. There was the fact that if these clerks had not been transferred, the work of the South Kanara district would have suffered; and in order to avoid any hardship, care was taken to post them to places where they had already worked or they could be employed in business which could be attended to without a knowledge of the Kanarese language.

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" Then my friend Mr. Krishnayya Choudari made a representation to Government about acting clerks in the Registration department in Guntur district. He said that acting clerks with 10 and 12 years' service in the Registration department in the Guntur district have not been confirmed. The period of 10 or 12 years' service referred to by my hon. Friend seems to have been calculated by taking into account stray periods of acting service. At present, I believe there are only about 10 acting clerks in the Guntur district, and none of them has put in more than 6½ years' total service, though some of them might have been first entertained as acting clerks as early as 1922 or so and their non-confirmation is due to exigencies of public service.

" Another complaint made was that vacancies in the Guntur district were filled by bringing in people from other districts. When there were four vacancies to be filled up in that district, three permanent clerks of the Madras-Chingleput district who had been thrown out of employment as a result of the introduction of the photo-copying system in that district, had to be transferred and absorbed in the Guntur district and one permanent clerk of the Bellary district had to be transferred to this district on account of the amalgamation of Bellary with the Anantapur district. I may say that barring these four vacancies, no other vacancies have been filled up by transfer of people from other districts.

" It was also mentioned that vacancies were filled up by transfer of clerks to this district from East Godavari and Bellary districts. In the case of transfer of a clerk from East Godavari referred to by the hon. Member, the transfer was a mutual one of clerks from East Godavari and Guntur, and there was therefore no question of filling up any vacancy. As regards the case of transfer of a clerk from Bellary, as I said, on account of the amalgamation of the Bellary district with Anantapur, that clerk had to be permanently provided for. There have been 20 vacancies in the Guntur district, to be filled up. Out of these 20, 12 posts were filled by confirmation of acting clerks in the district itself; four were filled by providing for clerks who would otherwise have been discharged from service, on account of the introduction of the photo-copying system or the amalagamation of districts, leaving only four posts vacant. And these four have been abolished on account of the reduction of staff consequent on the introduction of the photostat system and retrenchment schemes.

" One other point raised was that the operation of G.O. No. 947, dated 10th September 1934, in respect of these clerks should be waived. I am not in a position to give any definite promise on that point, but I believe as things stand at present, that Government Order is not likely to affect the clerks adversely.

" I believe, Sir, I have met the various criticisms made by hon. Members in the course of the debate in the House. I can give this assurance with reference to the reduction in the number of sub-registry offices, that I shall bear in mind the expressions of opinion by various

hon. Members here and see that as far as possible, the facilities that are already existing are not in any manner curtailed. I hope, Sir, with this assurance, the cut motion will be withdrawn."

—45 .m. The cut motion was put and lost.

The main Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND VI—IRRIGATION (EXCLUDING CAUVERY-METTUR PROJECT)—RESERVED.

* The Hon. Sir CHARLES SOUTER :—" Mr. President, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor I beg to move that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,04,93,200 under Demand VI—*Irrigation* (excluding Cauvery-Mettur Project)—Reserved."

* Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER :—" Mr. President, I beg to move the cut motion, standing in my name, namely:—

> ' *To reduce the allotment of Rs.* 1,04,93,200 *under Demand VI—Irrigation (excluding Cauvery-Mettur Project)—Reserved by Rs.* 100.'

In moving this cut motion I would like to bring home to the Government the necessity of looking forward in the direction of improving the irrigational facilities of this province in order to give adequate help to the ryot population and at the same time increase the revenue of the Government. (Mr. G. Rameswara Rao: ' In particular to the Ceded districts.') Sir, my hon. Friend asks me to mention the case of the Ceded districts and I would very well request the Government on their behalf also to see that their needs are served adequately.

" Sir, I am glad that the Government have of late taken up a policy of improving the minor irrigation sources and for that purpose have allotted certain amounts to the various districts, but I would like to point out that thereby they have not increased the facilities for irrigation to any extent but with this small amount they have provided, small, when compared to the works ahead of them, it was only possible to do some repairs to the sources which are already in existence by repairing the bunds and other things which have been allowed to be worn out by not having paid adequate attention to them from time to time. By this patchwork in minor irrigation works it is no concrete help at all to the ryots. Hence I submit, Sir, that it is necessary that the Government should not rest satisfied with these small schemes of repairing minor irrigation sources, but that they should come forward and do substantial things if they really want to help the ryot population. Of course, they can boast of the Cauvery-Mettur Project and that is really a pride for this Government to have brought into existence, but I may say that this project is not giving as much help to the ryots as it was expected to do. With regard to the Cauvery-Mettur Project, I shall have my chance to speak under the next demand and here I shall confine myself to the other irrigational facilities.

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" As far as the district of Salem, which I have the honour to represent is concerned, as early as 1930–31 when I first entered this Council, I referred to the lack of facilities for irrigation there and I have even drawn the attention of the Government to the Lifaud's Manual on Salem district which discusses the need for and the possibility of having some proper irrigational facilities in this district but the Government do not seem to have tackled so far these sources and utilized them to the best advantage of this district. There in that Manual it has been pointed out that irrigation facilities could be afforded at a much cheaper cost and that even more than 6 per cent interest on the outlay could be realized by Government. I do not know why the Government have not taken up and tackled those sources for giving adequate facilities to the ryots of this district where particularly most of the lands are dependent on rains. In some areas of this district we have got good streams and rivulets which have got almost some frequent supply of water, and they can be utilized to the best advantage of the district. For instance, we have got the Pennaiyar which is practically of no use to the greater part of the district, except that it affords some irrigation facilities to the Krishnagiri taluk somewhere near Barur.

" Sir, there is another small river Thoppayar in Omalur taluk of this district. With regard to this river, no doubt Government have taken up a scheme and investigated but unfortunately, they have abandoned the scheme altogether, saying that it was not practicable to carry it out. Here, I would like to point out that if it is not possible to have any reservoir and take water through the channels direct to the fields under this scheme, the Government may consider whether it would not be possible and feasible to see whether water could not be diverted during the time of the floods by putting anicuts across the river at convenient spots, so that the tanks nearby might be filled and thus give some steady and assured supply of water to the ayacutdars under those tanks. I think this is a matter which merits the consideration of Government and I hope they will do it.

" Then, Sir, there is another scheme which I brought forward before the Government quite recently relating to Krishnagiri taluk of my district. This concerns the supply of water from a jungle stream running in the reserves called Narlapalli to the Badathalav tank in that area. Formerly, there was a proposal considered to have the water diverted from the Markandeya river to this tank, but after investigation Government said that it was not possible. Now, I request the Government to see that at least the present proposal which I think they have forwarded to the Chief Engineer is taken into consideration and some relief is given, more especially because in that area, Government are losing heavily even in their present revenue year after year by way of giving remissions which they are obliged to give and if only Government could provide some proper facilities for water-supply to that tank, they can also get some appreciable income from that source.

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"I shall now pass on to a particular tract in the Namakkal taluk irrigated under the Cauvery channels. In that area, the people have been constantly complaining about the frequent failure of water, particularly after the Cauvery-Mettur Project has come into being. It is a pity, Sir, that the Government boast that they are giving a steady supply of water under this scheme, but unfortunately in this particular area the complaint is that the facilities which existed before have been spoiled on account of this project. The peculiarity here is that they hold up water in the reservoir as soon as they hear that there is rain in the Tanjore area, so much so there is no water in the river and in the channels and the result is the supply is cut short to their area too, even though there was no rain at all here and thus considerable damage is caused to the crops in this area. I wish to deal with this question also in greater detail when we come to the next demand and so, I leave this question for the moment.

"Sir, coming to the question of Koramu fees levied in this area it may not come under the Cauvery-Mettur Project and so I shall deal with it here. Originally Government started with a levy of Re. 1 or so, they subsequently raised it to Rs. 2 and again to Rs. 3 very reluctantly of course on the definite understanding that it will be reduced if the total under the head comes up to Rs. 30,000. Sir, that temporary levy is still being continued on the plea that a reserve of Rs. 30,000 under the head has not accumulated. And since these channels are being maintained under kudimaramat system, the Government do not pay a single pie towards their upkeep and everything is borne by the ayacutdars in this area. There is no strict economy in spending so much so that people are made to pay the enhanced rate of Rs. 3 continuously still. I therefore request the Hon. the Revenue Member to look into the question and see that the rate is reduced at least in the future, by adopting careful methods in spending and also contributing something from the Government revenues, since the Government realize a good deal of income by collecting heavy wet assessment water-rates in this area and so they are bound to spend for the upkeep of these sources of water-supply.

"Then, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Hon. the Revenue Member to a matter about which I have also put in an interpellation and that is with regard to the supply channel from the Tirumanimuthar river to a tank called Neikkarapatti tank in Salem taluk. There Government have got about 250 acres of land, and this tank in question is expected to supply this area after receiving its supply of water from the Tirumanimuthar river. But unfortunately, the supply channel from the river has been silted up and it has not been repaired, and so much so, the tank is not getting any water even during the floods. The said river Thirumanimuthar takes its source from the Shevaroys and though it has not got much water at the tail end, it gets some frequent floods to the upper regions and it can very well give a somewhat fair and adequate supply to this tank, if only the supply

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channel is kept in a state of good repair. But because it is not kept in good order, the tank has not been receiving its supply of water at all from this important source. The one difficulty which Government may probably put forward in this case is, that the said supply channel runs for some distance in proprietary estates and they could not do anything for that. But I may tell them that they are not justified in leaving the fate of a good many of the ryots under the ayacut by giving this simple excuse. In this connexion I may point out that some time ago, there was a case akin to this in the Tinnevelly district almost under similar circumstances, but the Government were able to come to some agreement with the landholder of that estate and had the difficulty removed and repaired the channel. Here also I may suggest their taking up such a course to effect some settlement with the proprietors and take up early the clearance of the supply channel by handing it over to the Public Works Department.

"I have got some more points to touch upon, but as there are other hon. Members who are anxious to take part in this discussion, I shall take my chance under the next demand relating to the Cauvery-Mettur Project."

* Mr. M. DEVADASAN:—"Mr. President, Sir, I find that nearly 3 P
105 lakhs of rupees has been provided for irrigation works and on examining the budget we find that no grant worth mentioning has been made for the Tinnevelly district. There has been a complaint against us,—the representatives of the depressed classes—that we do not speak on other subjects than those pertaining to the depressed classes. Coming as I do from Tinnevelly, I feel it my duty to voice the grievances of Tinnevelly district. I have to say that all classes of the population of Tinnevelly have been affected by the irrigatiou policy of the Government. Time and again, Sir, we have pressed on the attention of Government the necessity of providiug large sums of money for irrigation schemes in the Tinnevelly district. Some years ago, Sir, the Tank Restoration Scheme was initiated and an engineer was appointed and he explored the possibility of repairing several tanks. He also examined the question of reconstructing tanks that had not been useful for some time. Subsequently on account of retrenchment the engineer was taken away and the work remained undone. I must submit in the first place that Tinnevelly being removed far away from the headquarters of Government, has not been attended to in the past and remains so till now. I find, Sir, that Tinnevelly district has not been supplied with enough of tanks and enough of channels to meet the needs of the ryot population in the matter of cultivating their lands. I have given a cut motion for the purpose of eliciting information as to how many major and minor works are proposed to be carried out in the Tinnevelly district. Barring the tract served by the waters of the Tambaraparani and Chittar, the district is on the whole subjected to drought. The monsoons have been very partial to Tinnevelly. On the borders of Travancore, there is a big reservoir put up by the Travancore State which is satisfying the needs of Travancore. You can

compare the bordering villages of Tinnevelly and Travancore, and you will find that the village on Travancore frontier is hundred times better than the village on Tinnevelly, though the climatic conditions, rainfall and other facilities are the same in both the places. The reason is that in the Travancore State they have put up a dam at a heavy cost for the storage of water which has gone a great way to help the ryots of Travancore. If the British Government take steps in putting up a project like Papanasam, it would help the ryots in the same way as Travancore ryots are being helped. Tinnevelly gets an annual rainfall of 26 inches or thereabouts. The taluks touching the banks of the Tambaraparani and Chittar are fertile. So far as the other taluks are concerned, viz., Sankarankoil, Koilpatti and Nanguneri, they are subject to the worst drought. Last year there was a failure of the south-west monsoon with the result that most of the crops failed in places like Nanguneri, Koilpatti and Sankarankoil. Even this year there was not enough of water-supply; the south-west and north-east monsoons did not bring in enough rains to the surrounding taluks. So there was a failure of crops in places where people had to depend upon rain-fed tanks for their water-supply. The plight of the ryots of the taluks which are not favoured with facilities of nature like Ambasamudram, Tinnevelly, Srivaikuntam and Tiruchendur is miserable. So it is absolutely necessary that Government should take up the schemes which they have abandoned in the past. I find, Sir, that most of the tanks are rain-fed and no provision has been made for their improvement. There has been some provision made for the anicuts of Srivaikuntam and Marudur and for left flood-bank of the Tambaraparani, and the Government have not done anything more than that. I should submit, Sir, that Tinnevelly is the most highly taxed district in the whole province. Even in the Tanjore district where the clamour of the ryots is much more than any other district in the province, the tax is not heavy. They pay to the Government an average of Rs. 6 per acre of wet land whereas we pay an average of Rs. 9 per acre. The highest tax per acre in Tinnevelly is Rs. 21. If the Hon. the Revenue Member is pleased to examine the different rates of taxes in the several districts of this province he will find that Tinnevelly is the most highly taxed district. I will put the question to him, what have Government done for the ryots of Tinnevelly? Have they done anything in proportion to the income received in Tinnevelly? They have not done so much as they ought to have done for the ryots of the Tinnevelly district. Even last year, the question of taking up the Papanasam Irrigation Project was mooted. The Hon. the Revenue Member stated in his reply that the matter would be seriously considered. I would ask him, Sir, what he has done in pursuance of his assurance given last year. In reply to the cut motion of my friend Mr. Daniel Thomas, he said:

'Then as regards the Papanasam scheme, I can assure him again that the matter is being seriously considered. Not only so, but the potentialities of the scheme both from the irrigation point of view and from a hydro-electric point of view are being investigated. An interim report has been received which seems to show that prima facie the scheme will be a successful one. But the details have

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yet to be worked out, and we expect to receive those shortly. On receipt of them I shall see to it that no more delay occurs in the preparation of the detailed estimates than is necessary.'

So one will see that such an assurance was given. One year has elapsed since he gave the assurance. Recently in the general discussion I appealed to the Hon. the Law Member to consider the case of Hydro-Electric power for Papanasam. He stated that the Government and the Revenue Departments are considering the possibility of investigating it as a combined scheme and that so far as electricity was concerned there was not much hope of improvement. That was the reply given to us. But if the two schemes of electricity and irrigation were combined there was the possibility of developing the scheme. So I appeal to both the Hon. Members, Sir Reddi Nayudu and Sir Charles Souter, to take up the case of the reservoir and see that they expedite it as soon as possible. In fact large sums of money were spent for Mettur Project and for the Pykara Scheme. Who are the people that are benefited by them? I do not grudge them. But I ask Government whether they have extended the same consideration for the people of the Tinnevelly district. They have several similar schemes for other districts of the province. The present Government have one year before them and before these two hon. Gentlemen retire I hope they will see that their names are associated with the new scheme of Papanasam as in the case of the Mettur and Pykara projects the names of Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar and others are associated. It cannot be said that Government have not enough funds. They can borrow from the Government of India.

"I have given another cut motion regarding the Tank Restoration Scheme which I have already referred to. Large sums of money were spent in the past and the schemes in Tinnevelly have not been attended to. I appeal to the Hon. the Revenue Member to see that the investigation that was started should be resumed once more and also see that the repairs necessary for the tanks are done. I should submit that the scheme of Papanasam will also benefit the dry areas like Nanguneri, Koilpatti and Sankarankoil once it becomes an accomplished fact. There is another matter which has to be attended to in Tinnevelly. There is a channel lying between Vaipar and Vilathikulam. I urge on the Government the necessity of keeping the channel in good condition. With these words, Sir, I appeal to the Hon. the Revenue Member to consider all these schemes and expedite them."

* Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar:—"Mr. Deputy President, Sir, 3-
it requires no small courage to stand up against such a very seasoned p.m.
fighter as the Hon. the Revenue Member. However, I am taking courage in both my hands and venture to make a few observations on the motion he has made before this House. Sir, the demand is there, and the several cuts notices of which have been given are for the purpose of discussing the policy underlying irrigation. I am therefore trying to confine myself to certain general observations on matters of

policy. As the House is well aware, the Government divide the irrigation works into two categories, protective and productive, and they have certain returns in view, according to which they call a certain work productive or protective. Allowing for contingencies, tools and plant, etc., the return should be nearly eight or nine per cent before the work concerned can be treated as a productive work. The return is taken at a lower figure in the case of protective work. I venture to submit to the Hon. the Revenue Member and to the House that these rates were fixed at a time when money was very dear and could be had only at very high rates of interests. Now, Sir, the conditions are different and money can be had very cheaply. I put it to them whether it is not reasonable to reduce the returns expected of irrigation work for classification of works as productive or protective. On such a basis of return, I think the case for the Tungabhadra Project is strengthened still further and deserves even more urgent attention than it did before. I shall be much obliged if the Hon. the Revenue Member will tell us if the scheme has advanced as a result of his trip to the north. I take it that he has discussed this matter with the powers at Delhi, and I should like to know if he can hold out hopes a little bit more encouraging than he has been able to do so far.

"Then, I should like the Hon. the Revenue Member to examine the list of what are called the abandoned projects. The projects were abandoned because they were not expected to yield the prescribed return, to justify their execution. Now, in view of the prevailing lower rates of interest at which money could be had, the Government should make a reclassification of their productive and protective works, say, on the basis of a return of $1\frac{1}{2}$ and 3 per cent respectively. If, on such reclassification, any of the abandoned works are found feasible of execution, they should be taken up."

The Hon. Sir CHARLES SOUTER:—"Is it in the famine zone?"

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"I make the request as a matter of general policy. The question shall have to be considered from another point of view also if the works are in the famine zone. The Government shall have to be satisfied with a return far less than what it may be in the case of other districts.

"Then, there is the question, how far the Government can promote irrigation by lift from wells. For that purpose, I would suggest that they should carry out a survey of sub-soil water-supply and find out where water could be had and at what depths. With reliable data on these points, they must examine whether it is a practical proposition to carry on irrigation by lift. That is a very important matter for people living in the dry districts.

"Another matter which I want to place for the consideration of the Hon. the Revenue Member is that of minor irrigation. The rule relating to kudimaramat labour is a very harsh one if I may say so. The

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Act mentions several items of work such as repairing the bund, clearing silt in supply channels, keeping surplus water courses free of all growth and so on. It is simply impossible for the ryots owning the ayacut to attend to all these pieces of work. I very strongly urge upon the Government that they should take upon themselves the duty of keeping the supply channels and surplus water courses clean. Many of the other items also may have to be attended to by the Government because, otherwise, the present category of working is too costly a job for the ayacutdars.

" Another matter is the question of spring channels. In my district, as I am sure in other districts also, people dig channels along the bed of a river and take water to their fields. Sometimes the course of the channels is many miles long. Now, the ryots have to go in large numbers, keep the channels clear of sand—but now allow them to get silted up—and take water therefrom day after day. It means enormous cost and expense of time and labour. Now, the Government are charging for them almost the same rate. I would not say same rate but that of the class rent to the source of irrigation. The charges in these cases in my opinion should be merely nominal, so that the rights of the Government to the waters of the river may remain unaffected.

" Again, there is the case of the Duravu wells on the banks of rivers. When water is taken out of these wells for irrigation, the Government charge the usual water-rate less one-fourth which means a rebate of about one or two rupees. Does the Hon. the Revenue Member think the cost of having a pair of bulls, taking water out of these wells day after day and attending to repairs when the well gets silted up are all covered by that one or two rupees? I think, Sir, you must surely show greater consideration to people who take water from these Duravu wells. I do not want that the Hon. the Revenue Member should straightway say yes or no to the very many requests I have made. I want him to consider these matters. I am sure the Provincial Economic Council and its sub-committees will consider all these questions and probably be sending up reports. When these reports containing arguments for and against are received by the Government, I wish that the Hon. the Revenue Member would examine the questions from a sympathetic point of view. In view of his long stay in this country and in view of his knowledge of the difficulties of the people, I hope he would do something really to alleviate the hardships that the people feel."

Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari:—" Mr. Deputy President, Sir, our Kistna delta is one of the deltas that are paying about 18 per cent to the Madras Government on their investment."

The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu:—" Godavari delta pays more."

Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari:—" Yes, Godavari delta pays more. But unfortunately, while our delta is paying so much money to the Government, still Government feel that the money that is collected by way of water-rate is not sufficient. That is the very reason why they introduced recently the inclusion fee, otherwise called Nazarana,

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of Rs. 25 per acre of wet land. Considering this depression, I do not know why the Government are anxious to make money by way of inclusion fee of Rs. 25 per acre by increasing the wet ayacut. No doubt, when once they want to increase the settlement rate, they say they have improved the Kistna delta by introducing additional shutters, etc. But what is the actual benefit to the ryot after the construction of the new shutters? So far as the headsluice is concerned, it is not giving additional benefit to the ryot, because the water they get is much the same as before; and the authorities are not allowing more water through the headsluice.

" One other thing I want to bring to the notice of the Hon. the Revenue Member is this. They have introduced resluicing in our district; thereby the capacity of the pipes through which we get water for irrigation is considerably reduced, i.e., to 2 inches and 3 inches in some places. On account of this, the ryots of Guntur are put to a lot of inconvenience by not getting adequate water-supply to their lands. I can understand it if they at least consult the agricultural authorities, take their opinion in the matter and then proceed with the resluicing. The Public Works Department authorities do not consult the agricultural department, but after all their superfluous calculations and methods, it ends in reducing the size of the pipes. This practically puts the ryots to a great amount of inconvenience when the water is insufficient for their lands. So, it is no wonder that the ryots are anxious to make an agitation against this resluicing. I may state here, Sir, that this resluicing system also means another bumber crop to the various authorities. Even though the actual capacity of the pipe is not going to be reduced, they will bring a smaller pipe and say that they are going to introduce it in place of the old larger one. The moment the ryots see the smaller pipe they get terribly afraid that the capacity of the pipe is going to be reduced, and they will make some amicable arrangements with the authorities so as to adjust the matter as it originally stood. Some ten years back, the late Superintending Engineer of the Bezwada circle introduced the pipes after examining them at great length and he has satisfied himself about the same. That being so, I do not see why every ten years resluicing is considered necessary. With these observations, I request the Hon. the Revenue Member to see that the resluicing is not given effect to so early as the authorities think it necessary. Though theoretically there may be some advantage, it is not for the practical benefit either of the Government or of the ryot.

" Another thing is this. This year particularly we have not got seasonable rains and the Kistna river itself has not brought sufficient floods in time. That is why, though I have been hesitating for the last two or three years, I request the Government to think of constructing a dam across the Kistna river, otherwise called the Kistna Reservoir Project. It will not only supply water to the existing area of irrigated lands but it will also supply an additional area of ten lakhs of acres. Thereby Government will be able to increase their revenue very largely.

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As the Government are now in a position to get very cheap money, at 3 per cent, they can take this opportunity and construct a dam and improve the Kistna delta. If they have a dam with a height of 150 feet, it will not only help irrigation but they can also produce electricity as we have in the Mettur Project. So, Sir, there will be double income to the Government by that Kistna Reservoir Project, and I hope the Government will come to a decision at an early date.

" Though there were proposals for these short-cut drainages, no 3-
provision is made in the present budget. The Kollimerla came up p.
before the Finance Committee. But no provision was made, because it was thought it was not remunerative. Drainage schemes cannot be remunerative. They are not paying concerns. They are only meant to give relief to agriculturalists. They say they are granting about Rs. 3,000 by way of remission for that area. But this short-cut drain, if opened, would afford relief to the agriculturists in other places, and also save Government the remission now granted to the extent of Rs. 3,000. The present irrigation channels are expected to be maintained properly. Though there is sufficient allotment for it, for the last three years nothing has been done to improve them and the water is not flowing through them properly. Not only that, the allotments which they have provided for maintenance purposes are being used by the Public Works Department officers for the construction of gravel roads on the canal bunds to make it easy for the officers to go and inspect the canals, and consequently the drainage is neglected. I don't see why the money that is allotted for this purpose should be diverted in a different way.

" Then as regards the Irrigation Boards, they are not functioning properly. I made a representation last year that more powers should be given to these Boards. I think it will be more beneficial if these allotments are placed in the hands of the Irrigation Boards and these boards are made statutory. No doubt the authorities can have sufficient control over them. As a mere advisory body, they can do no good. They must be made statutory. If these amounts are given to the Irrigation Boards and they are asked to spend them in consultation with the Superintending Engineer and Executive Engineer, it will be more beneficial to the people and these channels will be maintained in a better condition.

" I have been insisting that in every area within the jurisdiction of an Executive Engineer we should have some Irrigation Panchayats. Though there has been provision for these bodies under the rules, so far as the Kistna West subdivision is concerned, not one panchayat has been started. I wish Government insisted on the Collector of every district that he should try the experiment in each subdivision and see how it is working.

" Sir, though we are paying water charge, still Government are collecting some kudimaramat charges even in these civilized days. I don't know why we should pay such charges. In Guntur district

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though we have been paying kudimaramat amounts for repairs to the Piduguralla tank, nothing has been done with the money collected six years back. Not only they have not carried out any improvements but they have not even refunded the money. I request the authorities to find out why such things are allowed to take place.

"Next, Sir, whenever any changes are proposed in the irrigation scheme, I request that the Government may insist upon the Engineering officers consulting the Agricultural department and obtaining their expert opinion, as they are in a better position to know what is in the interest of the agriculturists. In Guntur there are famine taluks such as Vinukonda and Palnad. Though it won't be remunerative, I suggest that irrigation schemes may be started as famine schemes for the benefit of that area. With these observations, I support the motion moved by my hon. Friend."

* Mr. V. T. ARASU:—"Mr. Deputy President, I should like to make a few observations regarding the only inland navigation canal worth the name that we have in this Presidency—I mean the Buckingham canal. I wish the Hon. the Revenue Member would avail himself of the earliest opportunity to visit that portion of the canal which runs through the Madras city and satisfy himself whether it is in a fit state for boats to ply in. As you are doubtless aware, Sir, this canal covers three districts, namely, Guntur, Nellore and Chingleput, besides the city of Madras which is the metropolis of the Presidency. Though according to the Navigation Rules published by the Government of Madras, Government have guaranteed to maintain a minimum of three feet of water in that portion of the canal which runs to the north of Madras and two feet in the south of it, I do not think the Hon. the Revenue Member would dare to come forward and say that at any part of the year they have maintained that minimum. At the same time they have been persistent in collecting from the boats plying in it the same rate of fees put down in the schedule to the Navigation Rules, namely, Rs. 4-8-0 for open boats and Rs. 6 for covered boats carrying passengers, per ton. In view of the fact that the canal is not in a fit condition for safe navigation they should see their way to reduce the rate now levied.

"In this connexion I am sorry to note the attitude of the Executive Engineer of the Chingleput division. The Buckingham Canal Boat-owners and Merchants' Association an association registered, under Act XXI of 1860, made a representation to him pointing out the bad condition and drawing his specific attention to the fact that portions of the canal are in a hopeless state. But that officer refused even to look into the petition saying that the association is not recognized by the Government and therefore he could not receive any representation from that association. Sir, I think any reasonable set of people would welcome a representation from an association of that type. This association was registered under Act XXI of 1860. On the other hand, what is it that this officer has done? Instead of welcoming representations from such an association, I am surprised to see the Executive

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Engineer simply write back and say 'I cannot receive any representation from you, unless this association is recognized by Government.' Ordinarily this officer should receive any representation made by any person interested in this canal; but to reject a representation made by a *Registered Association such as the Buckingham Canal Boat-owners* and Merchants' Association is to say the least reprehensible.

"I am sorry to note that the allotment for the Buckingham canal for the coming year 1936–37 is very much lower than what it used to be in previous years. I find that in 1930–31 the amount spent for this canal was very nearly Rs. 2 lakhs. But according to the budget estimates for 1936–37 the Government propose to spend only a sum of Rs. 1,60,000. I am surprised that the Government should neglect this canal in this manner. Instead of allotting more funds for maintaining it in a fit condition, the allotment has been reduced.

"Hon. Members are aware that any system of inland navigation is bound to be cheaper and more beneficial than any other system of transport that human ingenuity has discovered. It has been very well demonstrated that inland navigation canals are very cheap to maintain than rail-roads or even ordinary roads. When this is the case, I cannot understand why even ordinary attention is not being paid to this canal. When a road is damaged by floods immediately the authorities attend to it. But when the Buckingham canal breaches in times of rains there is none to attend to it. There were several breaches during the last monsoon, and they are yet to be closed. I understand that these breaches will be closed only in the coming year, in August or September. It is preposterous to think that a breach which occurred in November 1935, should remain unattended to till August or September 1936, i.e., for a period of ten months. Again, the bars of the locks in this canal system are in a hopeless condition. I know of three locks which are hopelessly damaged and have not been repaired for the last six or seven months in spite of representations. These locks are intended to maintain the water at a certain level. I would suggest that Government do take immediate steps to keep the canal in a satisfactory condition and see that the minimum level of water is kept. After all, it must be realized that it is a productive system. Government realize an income of about Rs. 1,10,000 every year against an expenditure of Rs. 1,60,000. I think the House must realize that if this canal is kept in good condition the revenue is bound to go up, and even yield a profit. The condition of the canal, particularly within the limits of the city of Madras, is hopeless. Under the Navigation Rules a boat entering the Ennore lock is expected to come back within a period of seven days. Otherwise the boat will have to pay a penal wharfage. Now I can tell the hon. Member that no boatman is able to cover this distance of about ten miles from the Ennore lock to Barber's bridge and back, within anything like seven days permitted by the Navigation Rules. In every case the boat has to pay wharfage and penalty, because it is absolutely impossible for the boat to traverse this distance within the seven days allowed.

45 n. "This is proof positive of the fact that the canal is in a hopelessly bad condition and does not enable the boats to pass it easily within the time permitted under the Navigation Rules. Some time back a new boat intended to be registered was held up at the Barber's bridge wharf and could not be taken to the Basin bridge wharf for being measured and licensed by the officer concerned. It was found impossible to tow the boat to the Basin bridge wharf on account of the bad condition of the canal. Therefore the officer had to come down to Barber's bridge to measure the boat and tax it.

"I do not want to weary the House with a recital of the grievances that we have in regard to the condition of the Buckingham canal. I would only request the Hon. the Revenue Member to convene an informal conference of the engineering officers concerned with the administration of this water-way, and some representatives of the Boat-owners' Association of Madras and find out ways and means to improve the condition of the canal. I would also request the Hon. Member to direct the officer in charge of the canal, the executive engineer of the Chingleput division, to receive representations from the Boat-owners' and Merchants' Association and co-operate with them in finding ways and means to improve the canal, instead of, as he does now, turning down the representations made saying that this association is not recognized by the Government."

Mr. P. K. RAMACHANDRA PADAYACHI :—"தென்னாற்காடு ஜில்லாவில் உள்ள பெருமாள் ஏரிக்கு சரியான காலத்தில் ஜலம் வருவதில்லை. ஷை ஏரியினால் சுமார் 6,000 ஏக்கர் நிலம் இரண்டு போகம் சாகுபடி ஆகிறது. ஏரியின் கீழ் குண்டிய மல்லூர் கிராம முதல் பூண்டியாங்குப்பம் வரையில் சுமார் 15 கிராம ஜனங்களுக்கும் ஷை கிராமங்களில் உள்ள மற்ற ஜந்துக்களுக்கும் ஷை ஏரியின் ஜலம்தான் குடி தண்ணீர். மழை குறைவினால் சில காலங்களில் ஷை ஏரியில் தண்ணீர் இல்லாமல் போய்விடும். அப்பொழுது ஷை கிராம ஜனங்களுக்கு வேறு குடி தண்ணீர் வசதி கிடையாது. ஆகையினால் ஷை ஏரியில் எக்காலங்களிலும் ஜலம் தேங்கி இருக்க ஏற்பாடு செய்யவேண்டும். ஏரிக்கு லோயர் அணையின் ஜலம் வீராணம் வழியாக வெள்ளாற்றை கடந்து பாலராஜா ஏரியின் மூலமாய் பெருமாள் ஏரிக்கும் சப்ளையாகும். அதன் நிகளம் சுமார் 35 மையில் ஆகும். ஆகையால் முன்னமே சப்ளை செய்யவேண்டும். பெருமாள் ஏரி வடிகாலை அகல வெட்டி மராமத்து செய்து கொடுத்தால் வெள்ளப்பாழ் இல்லாமல் சரிவர சாகுபடியாகும்.

"கெடில நதியின் அணைகட்டிலுள்ள மெயின் சானல் பூராவும் P.W.D. சரிவர மராமத்து செய்து கொடுப்பதில்லை. குடிகள் பெடிஷன் போட்டால் அதற்கு பதில் நீங்களே செய்துக் கொள்ளுங்கள் என்று சொல்கிறார்கள். அந்த ஏரியின் பாச்சல் நிலங்களுக்கு முனிசிபல் வரியும் ரெவனியூ வரியும் சேர்த்து வசூல் செய்கிறார்கள். ஏரியின் நிலங்களுக்கு போதுமான ஜலவழி சரிவர இல்லாமல் சாவியாய் போய் விடுகிறது. P.W.D. எதற்காக இருக்கிறது? சரிவர ஜலம் பாய்ந்தால் தானே குடிகள் நிலங்களை சாகுபடி செய்து ஜீவிக்கமுடியும்.

"ஆகையினால் கவர்ன்மெண்டார் அவர்கள் இது விஷயம் கவனிக்கவேண்டும்."

* Mr. P. PEDDI RAJU :—"Sir, as usual, coming as I do from the Godavari delta, I have to voice the grievances of the people of the Godavari delta. This is our only opportunity for putting forward our grievances.

16th March 1936] [Mr. P. Peddi Raju]

"Now coming to the details of our grievances, let me first refer to the original proposal of the Government that so far as the maintenance charge of channels is concerned, it must be in proportion to the acreage served by them. That question, so far as the deltas are concerned, was settled about four years ago. From the provision made in the budget year after year for maintenance and repair of these channels, so far as the allotment under the head 'Godavari delta' is concerned, I find reduction made every year. In the year 1934–35 there was a provision of Rs. 7,64,000, but in the present year there is provision only for Rs. 6,98,000. It is clear from these figures that the provision is being gradually reduced in spite of the complaint of the ryots that proper maintenance work is not being carried out in the delta. I would request the Government to see if proper provision cannot be made for at least maintenance and repairs. As suggested by my hon. Friend, Mr. Krishnayya Choudari, the delta is paying a good rate of interest on the capital invested. I think it can safely be asserted that the Godavari delta pays the highest interest on the capital invested. Therefore instead of squeezing every pie from the ryot, the Government ought also to take care to see that their interests are protected by providing more money for maintenance works.

"I come next to the question of drainage. After so many years, the Hon. the Revenue Member in the last budget speech was kind enough to state that the Chief Engineer has prepared a programme for improvement of drainage in the Godavari delta estimated to cost Rs. 5,00,000. This was done after an agitation for over a quarter of a century. As I said, the Hon. Member made that statement last year, but I do not find any provision for it in the budget. I fear therefore that the scheme will not be taken up at all. I request the Hon. Member not to be satisfied with the tentative programme prepared by the Chief Engineer, but to see that the works are undertaken as soon as possible. The Hon. Member has been pointing out to me the budget figures. I see there a small provision made for the completion of the improvement of the drainages in both West and East Godavari deltas. I may state that the real drains in the delta which run from one end of it to the other has not been improved during the last 25 years. They run to a length of 40 miles and there is no provision made for improving them. They are not minor drains that could be improved with one or two thousand rupees. If the thing has to be done satisfactorily, the entire drainage has to be systematically investigated and a scheme worked out and completed in the course of years. As the Hon. the Revenue Member has said, there is a programme. I would request him to see that those proposals are placed not only before the officials, but also before the ryots of the district. After this the Government may get plans and estimates made and in consultation with public opinion, may take on hand the most important of the works on the programme.

[Mr. P. Peddi Raju] [16th March 1936

"The next question which was referred to by my hon. Friend from Guntur was that relating to nazarana. I would also request the Hon. Member to see that so far as the collection of premium is concerned for inclusion of a land in the ayacut the serious hardship felt is removed. Quite apart from the fact that it is an illegal collection, there is another fact to be remembered. The Hon. the Revenue Member knows that in several of the estates in the Godavari delta, all the lands were treated as wet lands and also cultivated as wet lands until recently. Now the Government have localized the mamul wet in consultation with the zamindars and not in consultation with the ryots. Some of the lands are put down under bapat wet anew and the tenants have been asked to pay Rs. 6–4–0 for water although those lands were being used all these years for wet cultivation. Now ryots owning those lands have to pay the dry assessment and Rs. 6–4–0 to Government and something extra as well. The question to be considered is whether this nazarana should be collected. The Hon. the Revenue Member knows that there is shifting cultivation on these lands, wet in some years and waste in others. As these are low-lying lands the tenants are accustomed to cultivate them as wet lands in one year and leave them waste in another year. The argument of the Government is that as all these lands are not cultivated wet every year, nazarana should be paid if they are to be treated as wet. But, Sir, the lands are not fit for wet cultivation. Sometimes they are even laid waste because it is no good cultivating them wet. The question is whether in such circumstances any nazarana can be collected from those lands. So, Sir, I would request the Hon. the Revenue Member to seriously consider this question whether any nazarana should be collected in the case of those estates where the mamul wet has been localized.

"Sir, there is another point to be considered. We are now considering whether the ryot should not be favoured by a reduction of taxation and otherwise. The zamindar himself has been collecting a flat rate of Rs. 5 and if he is allowed to collect one rupee now as dry rent and the Government want Rs. 6–4–0, will it not amount to increasing the rental per acre? The question for the Government to consider is whether, in view of the fact that the Government and the zamindars are parties to the agreement, the tenants should be penalized in this way. I want to know what the Government propose to do in this matter. Of course it is said that there is a provision in the Irrigation Cess Act that the localization of mamul wet would not affect the rights of tenants and zamindars and that every tenant has to bring a suit against the zamindar for the recovery of the extra water-cess collected by the Government on account of the existence of a previous agreement. But, Sir, in order to obviate the difficulty of driving the tenant to court, I think the Government should consider the question of reducing the water-cess in those particular areas where the irrigation sources are classed as third.

"So, Sir, I would request the Government to consider this aspect of the case.

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" The next point that I wish to refer is the closure of the Godavari canals. This question is being agitated from last year and in answer to an interpellation in this session the Hon. the Revenue Member was pleased to state that the Chief Engineer had not yet reported. The canals used to be closed for one month and not for five weeks. In spite of an interpellation in this Council the only reply that we received was ' we have no information ' and the only answer that the Government gave was that the Chief Engineer had not yet reported. And we are again coming to the closure of the canal next month. I would therefore request the Hon. the Revenue Member to expedite the matter and see that justice is done, because I may inform the Government—I think the Hon. the Revenue Member is also aware of that fact—that on account of the closure of the canal for more than five weeks last year several of the seed-beds are spoiled and it has become very difficult for the ryots to transplant the seedlings, and they have had to spend large sums of money to purchase seedlings.

" Another point that I wish to address myself is this: last year the Hon. the Revenue Member was pleased to state that the question of construction of culverts over the irrigation channels in the delta would be investigated and something done, because I stated that every communication in the village had been intercepted by the digging of the channel and it was impossible for the ordinary ryot to go to his field without crossing the channel. I have been ascertaining what is being done, but the local officials have not been careful enough to send up any of their proposals or at least definite information to the Government so that the Government might be in a position to state what action they are going to take. I request the Government again to see that the matter is expedited. In asking the Government to see that these communications are restored, I would request the Government also to provide a certain amount of money for each delta, not only for Godavari and Kistna deltas, but also for every other delta whenever the Government interfere with these communications in those deltas. If the Government are not going to accept the full responsibility, at least they must spare a definite amount of money as contribution, just as they do in the case of local bodies, for the construction of culverts. The question arises, when one looks into this subject, that grants are made by the Government to local bodies and that the latter are not entitled to them. But I would point out that as long as there is a communication from the village to the field—not a second-class or a third-class road—and as long as it is interfered with by the Government, the Government must prepare a scheme or at least set apart a certain amount of money from the irrigation funds and see that something is done for redressing this grievance in the near future.

" There is only one other point that I wish to draw the attention of the Hon. the Revenue Member to and that is the question of remodelling the channels in the delta. When nazarana was first initiated in 1923 and when Government collected Rs. 15 lakhs in the delta, they

promised that the money would be utilized for the improvement, extension and remodelling of the channels. But I see from the programme for this year that no money is being provided. I think the total amount that has been allotted is only a few hundreds of rupees for the remodelling of a single channel in the Godavari delta. So, I submit that the Government have forgotten their old promise and have not been minding the interests of the ryot population in the delta. So I would request the Hon. the Revenue Member to take this into consideration and see that something is done for the improvement of the channels in the delta, because there is extension of irrigation from year to year. New projects are being constructed, but all the same the question of remodelling is neglected without benefit to the ryot or to the Government. In this connexion I would also draw the attention of the Government to one other fact and that is this: that there are certain channels both in East Godavari and West Godavari deltas portions of which lie in the zamindari areas. The local officials have not been taking any steps to repair the canals because some of those channels lie in the zamindari area and they say they cannot go on improving them at the cost of the Government. As far as the Government collect water-cess on the lands in the estate, I think they are bound to repair the channels and if some of the channels lie in zamindari area it is the duty of the Government to acquire those channels themselves or compel the zamindars to improve those channels if they do not do it themselves. As one instance of this I have drawn the attention of the Government with reference to the Rameswaram channel in the East Godavari in the Pithapur zamindari. It has been admitted in answer to an interpellation of mine that Government are considering whether they should not take over the Rameswaram channel and that they have been negotiating with the Maharaja of Pithapur. That was an answer given to me some months ago and till now no action has been taken. It is also admitted that a large extent of land under this channel is kept waste year after year. The only thing the Government can do is they must dig their own channel if they are not able to take over the present channel from the Maharaja of Pithapur, because that channel lies in the land belonging to the Maharaja of Pithapur. So I would request the Government to consider this aspect of the case also. I request the Government who are taking their pound of flesh from the ryots of the deltaic areas to consider whether they should not do something to their benefit in the improvement of channels and drains in those areas."

Mr. A. Pl. N. V. Nadimuthu Pillai:—"Mr. Deputy President, Sir, while supporting the motion I rise to impress upon the Government the necessity of remedying immediately the poor irrigation facilities and the drainage defects as pointed out by us between 1926 and 1935.

"In my Council speech on the 12th March 1933, I pointed out the necessity of providing a high-level escape on the left bank of the river Pamaniyar and the construction of a regulator below Saluvanar head

in Tiruturaipundi taluk. Though the above items come under the important recommendations of the Cauvery Committee still they were studiously ignored by the Public Works Department officials and the Government. The Government may say that the recommendations of the Cauvery Committee are carried out one after another but here I must say that discretion must be used in preferring urgent and important works for execution as laid down in the Cauvery Committee's report for Tiruturaipundi, Mannargudi and Negapatam taluks. To the several representations of the ryots the Government have replied that they would be attended to in due course whenever funds permitted. The Government should not give out this evasive reply because Tanjore district alone pays more than 85 lakhs of rupees in the shape of land revenue alone. From a perusal of the Civil Budget Estimate, Appendix (E), I am surprised to see Government providing paltry sums of rupees 36,100 and Rs. 3,300 under the heads of 16. and 55. respectively for Tanjore district. As regards extensions and improvements, maintenance and repairs the amounts provided are hopelessly inadequate when compared with the figures provided for the Northern Circars Delta districts.

"The Government can easily avoid recurring remission losses hereafter if the drainage works are carried out at one stroke in Tiruturaipundi, Mannargudi and Negapatam taluks and especially in the middle section of the former. The drainage difficulties in most of the villages in these taluks continue as before. Local rains with surface water from above and the water coming down the channels all continue to flood the lands and damage the crops. There is a recurring damage every year and it has not been remedied. There is an earthen bund put up protecting the village of Ovarkudi from floods and this bund causes real hardship to the village of Vunganagar by diverting inundations into this village. Want of a pakka sluice in this bund is not remedied even after repeated requests of the mirasidars. In time of flood all the channel head sluices are open usually to drain off. The offer of the Engineering department to close the head sluice is not only impracticable but also unreliable even otherwise that alone will not improve the situation.

"When admittedly the facilities of irrigation and drainage are meagre, defective and unsatisfactory there is no justification for increasing the assessment by revising the classification. Apart from the above it appears necessary from what is stated in the Settlement notification that there should be increased yield from the lands to justify a revision of classification. If as stated above, the defective conditions of irrigation and drainage continue to be the same there is no possibility at all for any increase in yield and there is no justification at all for any revision of classification.

"The Government should call for a report from the Chief Engineer with our petitions for completing the Tiruturaipundi-Mannargudi taluk drainage works and issue immediate instructions to take up those

works at least in the beginning of the coming official year. From the closing balance of the general budget 70 lakhs of rupees may be provided on reproductive lines for the aforesaid drainage improvements as officially indicated in paragraphs 131 to 135 of the Cauvery Committee's report. There are one lakh acres of good cultivable waste and swamp lands in the Vedaranyam, Nachikulam, Talainayar, Vaduvur, Mannargudi and Tiruturaipundi firkas. They are likely to be improved in fertility under B.S.O. No. 15 (22) for coconut, tobacco and other commercial crops cultivation at a lease amount of Rs. 10 per acre between faslis 1346 and 1350. The Government may thus easily recoup the extra outlay of Rs. 70 lakhs involved in improving urgently the deplorable defective drainage difficulties of Tiruturaipundi-Mannargudi and Negapatam taluk villages.

"With these few words I request the Hon. the Revenue Member to do the needful."

The Deputy President:—"This grant will be put to vote at 4-45 p.m."

-15 .m. * The Hon. Sir Charles Souter:—"Mr. President, Sir, I think to-day I will depart from my usual method of replying to debates in this House of taking up the subjects one after another and discussing them generally; I think it would be better perhaps if I took the remarks of each hon. Member and referred briefly to the points which he brought forward.

"The first Member who talked was my hon. Friend, Mr. Nachiyappa Gounder. He as usual confined himself principally to Salem; although he started by saying that his sympathies were also with the other districts I found that his sympathies stopped with Salem and went no further. Anyhow he said that the accelerated programme of minor irrigation works which the Government had started provided for only a paltry amount. This paltry amount, I must remind the House, amounts to Rs. 50 lakhs! And I understand that a very considerable proportion of this has been given to Salem. I have not got the exact figures here; I had them as a matter of fact but I have lost them. But Salem certainly has not got a smaller proportion than other districts similarly situated. I must say also that Salem has in the past received always more than its due share of investigation into the various projects. The fact that a great many of these were found to be not feasible cannot possibly be laid at the door of the Government, because the projects themselves were not of a nature which really commended themselves to the technical experts. Apart from that I notice here that last year a petition was received from the ryots requesting Government to take up the abandoned scheme of the Badathalav Project in the Krishnagiri taluk. That scheme was at once sent to the Chief Engineer with the direction that if he considered the alternative put forward by the ryots to be feasible he should report to Government to that effect I have already told the hon. Member this but surely

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it is hardly time yet for a scheme of this magnitude to have been reported on in this short time. We still await the Chief Engineer's reply. I may say that the first scheme which was put forward could not possibly have been carried out unless Rs. 48 an acre was paid by the ryots as water-rate. Then the other scheme, the Toppaiyar project had to be given up because it would affect the rights of people in the territory below and cause complications which Government could not possibly deal with. The project was dropped also because it would cost over Rs. 20 lakhs and the return would be less than 3 per cent on a water-rate of Rs. 10. Also the river was so rapidly flowing that the reservoir if constructed was bound to silt up in a short time. Then the Krishnagiri Reservoir project was investigated. The estimated cost was Rs. 67 lakhs. It was found that if the project was carried out the irrigation sources at present existing below it could not extend their irrigation. In other words, if we constructed the Krishnagiri reservoir it would mean that the ryots lower down would have to suffer. Then the Gudumalai Tank Scheme which consists of the restoration and excavation of a supply channel costing Rs. 44,000 is now in progress. Another tank also which my hon. Friend mentioned to irrigate about 225 acres in the Naikarapatti village is now under investigation. The Chief Engineer has not yet sent his final report. As regards the Cauvery channels I am inclined to agree with my hon. Friend, in fact I thoroughly agree with him, that the requirements of Tanjore should not in any way work against the interests of Salem. I think we see here for the first time now the demands of Tanjore resisted elsewhere. Because there has been rain in Tanjore, I do not see why we should not give water to Salem. The whole question of these stoppages which occurred two or three times last year. (Mr. K. A. Nachiappa Gounder: 'More than three times.') Three times is my recollection. The Chief Engineer has been asked to see that these do not recur.

"Then I come to Mr. Devadasan who pleaded for Tinnevelly. He is perfectly right in one statement which he made and that was that the average wet rate in Tinnevelly was higher than anywhere else in the Presidency. (An hon. Member: 'Guntur.') Guntur is second. This is mainly due to the extraordinary fertility of the Tambraparni valley where there are regularly three crops a year and where failure is very seldom indeed. That is a very special tract specially treated. Apart from that there is no doubt that in the other tracts of Tinnevelly measures are necessary and I assure hon. Members that it will be looked into. I see here in my list no less than four projects at present under investigation including the Papanasam Reservoir. As regards the latter I think the hon. Member rather hinted that the Government have not displayed sufficient energy in the matter. It is all very well for a man sitting here on the back benches to say like that; I wish he were the Revenue Member and had to do this work so that I could see if it could be done faster. I am sure I would with the greatest joy let him undertake my job. (Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan: 'Next year.') I trust so. The fact is that if we look upon this project as a purely

irrigation project, it is not worth carrying out. That we have already investigated. But if we can combine it with an electrical proposition I myself think it is feasible. Major Howard's department is now working out the details in combination with the irrigation side and I know that they are just as keen as we are. I trust it will not be many months before we have their final report in the matter. As I said we are just as anxious to have that reservoir carried out, if of course, it is financially feasible to do so, as any Member of Tinnevelly.

"Then, Mr. Devadasan complained that the amounts which were given to Tinnevelly from the accelerated programme of minor irrigation works were insufficient. I find Rs. 75,000 were allotted to Tinnevelly this year, Rs. 90,000 for the next year and one lakh of rupees for the third year. This is in addition to the ordinary works of the Minor Irrigation Department which of course will be carried out by the Revenue staff in the ordinary way. I cannot think that these figures reveal that Tinnevelly has been neglected in any way. Various other projects also are being carried out. Extensions and improvements to the Maranthai Anicut and Manur channel have been carried out. This is the channel which my hon. Friend, Mr. Nachiyappa Gounder, referred to. It passes some part of its way through proprietary estates and we had to come to some agreement with the zamindars owning the lands through which the channel passes. I assure him there will be no difficulty in cases of that kind; there ought not to be any difficulty in coming to some arrangement with the proprietors of the adjacent lands.

"Then, Sir, I pass on to my hon. Friend, Mr. Ranganatha Mudaliyar, who first of all put forward a plea that the rates of return which the Government demanded from the irrigation works were too high. I may inform him that we have addressed the Government of India on this matter and of course we must abide by their decision as the loans we borrow for the purpose of capital works are given by the Government of India and naturally we must abide by the rate of interest which they impose. At any rate we have addressed the Government of India on the subject of the rates of interest which they demand.

"Then Sir, came the question of the Tungabadra project. I had a talk with Sir Frank Noyce the other day in Delhi about it. All he told me was that a reply had been received by the Government of India from the Hyderabad Government on this subject, that it had only recently been received and that he himself had not yet read it. I trust therefore that as this reply has been received, matters have gone forward anyhow one step further. (An hon. Member: 'Mysore Government?') The whole case was raised by us with reference to the attitude of the Government of Mysore in this matter of the allocation of the waters of the river. It was on that attitude that we addressed the Government of India with whom the matter now remains. I hope the House understands the position clearly there and that for the moment at any rate the matter has passed out of our hands. I think I have

told the House some time ago that we had proposed an arbitration on the matter and it was that question that we had submitted to the Government of India. The Government of India have addressed the Government of Hyderabad also in the matter as that Government is intimately concerned. As I told the House just now the reply of the Hyderabad Government had been received only a few days before I reached Delhi last week.

"Then Sir, as regards the re-examination generally of abandoned works, I am afraid that is rather a large order. I think it is far better to say that this or that work should be re-examined and more attention should be paid to it, than merely to say that all abandoned works throughout the Province should be re-examined. I do not think it is going to take us much further.

"As regards sub-soil water in the Ceded districts we have already taken up the subject and I think I informed the House some time ago that in this year's budget we have provided Rs. 20,000 for experiments in some half a dozen places to see whether we cannot get down below the hard rock to a stratum of water which will be at any rate sub-artesian. We are employing, I must say a little experimentally, a water diviner to see whether he can locate water down below. We shall bore down if necessary for 200 feet below the surface to see whether we can meet water in places indicated by him.

"There is no necessity for a Geologist, because the area has been thoroughly surveyed geologically; and we know pretty clearly from the beginning to the end of the tract that, at about 12 to 15 feet in some places and perhaps 50 feet in other places from the surface we meet with very hard rock which is not, as very often happens, deeply fissured and therefore not capable of carrying much water. It is just possible there may be some supply under it. 4-30 p.m.

"As regards spring channels and doruvu wells, that is a matter of detail which I shall have examined in the office. It seems to me, as my hon. Friend himself admitted, that it is not possible to give any definite answer about those points.

"Then, Sir, I may tell Mr. Krishnayya Choudari that the matter of inclusion fee was examined too late this year for the purpose of this year's budget. But the matter is going to be taken up in detail during the course of 1936–37 and I trust something satisfactory to the hon. Member may be evolved.

"Then as regards the shutters of the river Kistna, I could not quite follow Mr. Krishnayya Choudari. He tells me that although 6-foot shutters were put up over the Kistna, it does not give extra water. I am sure it will give a great deal of extra water. As regards re-sluicing and remodelling, I am having the matter referred to the Chief Engineer. I had the matter some time ago referred to him after my visit to the district and I must see what he says. The Kistna Reservoir, I am afraid, must wait, as I said once before, the Tungabhadra project.

At any rate so far as I can see, the Tungabhadra project must have preference over any other project of that magnitude. As I said before, the Ceded districts are in far greater need of help than the rest of the districts in the Presidency.

"Mr. Krishnayya Choudari referred to the Kollimerla drain; he said that nothing had been done about it. I do not think he can have read the Civil Budget Estimates very carefully. I see at page 31 here that an estimate for Rs. 54,000 for the Kollimerla drain has been sanctioned this year; Rs. 22,500 has been budgeted for next year. The other points are about irrigation boards and panchayats which I will have examined; as regards the Pidiguralla tank in which he said the money which was given by the ryots had not been spent I will have that matter also examined.

"Then Sir, comes my hon. Friend, Mr. Arasu; he was concerned mainly with the Buckingham canal. First of all, to clear all doubts, I should like to say that the Buckingham canal scheme since 1921–22 up to the year 1935–36 has been run steadily at a loss. In 1921–22, the loss was Rs. 1,17,000; last year the loss was Rs. 58,000. The reason for this is of course, competition of the railway; and he was complaining about its condition now. Every year I understand silt clearance is carried out at a certain time of the year; this year also it will be carried out; but in the year 1928 the matter received particular attention and an estimate of just under Rs. 2 lakhs was sanctioned for deepening the Buckingham canal in order to increase the possibility of navigation. At that time the licence fees were raised in order to meet some part of this extra cost. The work was started and after excavation was done for a certain depth, springs were met with, which simply threw the earth out again and practically reduced the canal to the same level as it had been before; and I fancy that those who originally designed this canal knew that very well. Otherwise it is pretty well certain that they would have made the canal deeper than it is now; probably in those days they made the canal just as deep as they could considering the nature of the soil; so that, I am afraid that any question of deepening the canal throughout must be given up, as it would be a sheer waste of money. But the depth of 3 feet is maintained practically throughout, after silt clearance is carried out. We cannot prevent the silt coming in; you cannot possibly close the canal at intervals to clear silt, as traffic will be dislocated hopelessly. Anyhow I will take note of what he says about its bad condition and I have already asked the Secretary to write to the Chief Engineer and ask his opinion about it. I will also find out what substance there is in his complaint that the Boat-owners Association has not been treated with the courtesy it claims to be entitled to.

"Then, Sir, Mr. Peddi Raju again spoke about his West Godavari drainage. I had hoped when I told him the other day that an estimate for works costing Rs. 5 lakhs had been sanctioned and that the Chief Engineer proposes to carry these works out, that he would keep quiet

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for a longer time. All I can tell him is that work has certainly been examined and the mere fact that an estimate has been sent up ought to prove that to him.

" As regards wet rate in the zamindaris, I did not quite follow him. I thought he meant that in zamindaris, the rate should be less for water than for Government lands. If so, I do not know why that should be the case, because water is just as precious to the zamindari area as it is in Government area, and after all, Rs. 6-4-0 per acre for water in a delta is not in my opinion, a very excessive rate. On the contrary it must be a very moderate rate. Perhaps Mr. Peddi Raju may compare his district rates with the rates in Tanjore and see which district's rate is most lenient to the ryot. As regards closing of the channels, I regret if what he says is true. I have asked the Secretary to tell the Chief Engineer, to let me have his report at once in the matter. I must say, not being a professional Engineer, I cannot myself see why the canal should be closed so long; it seems to me that they would be able to clear the canals in a month instead of six weeks. This is a technical matter and I must see what the Chief Engineer says about it.

" Then, Sir, came the question of the Rameswaram channel. I have not heard about it, I will make enquiries about it. My hon. Friend, the Finance Member, says that he knows something about it. That seems to be a matter for some enquiry and I shall see that is made.

" Then I think the last speaker, Mr. Nadimuthu Pillai, referred to irrigation in his district; his complaint is about the drainage in the Cauvery Main Delta and that the recommendations of the Cauvery Committee of 1923 have not been carried out. In particular he referred to Mannargudi taluk and the Pamaniyar which very often overflows its banks and causes inundation. Three dams across the river are being converted into regulators and the work will be completed shortly. Besides these works, it is proposed to carry out the Tirurameswaram drainage at a cost of Rs. 45,000; a provision of Rs. 6,000 has been made in this year's budget. The Cauvery Committee's recommendations, I assure the hon. Member, are being carried out; but they cannot all be done at once, because we must take the more urgent works first. In Tiruturaipundi taluk, two works are now in progress and a third, a project across the Muliyar to convert the present work into a regulator will be taken up when the first two works are completed.

" I think, Sir, my time is just up and I hope that my speech did not tire hon. Members and that they will be satisfied with the answers I have given them. We cannot do everything; we will try what we possibly can; sympathy was talked of; it is not a question of sympathy; it is a question of what is really needed and if anything is urgently needed and can possibly be carried out from the funds at our disposal, hon. Members may be certain that it will be carried out. With these words I hope that hon. Members will not press the cut motions which they have moved."

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* Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—" Sir, I do appreciate the sympathy of the hon. Member; but our complaint is that nothing tangible has been done so far; I think if this cut motion is pressed, it will aid the hon. Member do some thing. As we wish to show our attitude in the matter, I think I would not be justified if I withdraw the motion."

The cut motion was put and lost.

4-45 p.m. The Demand was then put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND VII—IRRIGATION—CAUVERY-METTUR PROJECT—RESERVED.

* The Hon. Sir CHARLES SOUTER:—" Mr. President, Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I beg to move—

' *that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs.* 1,28,700 *under Demand VII—Irrigation—Cauvery-Mettur project—Reserved.*' "

* Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—" Sir, I beg to move the cut motion standing in my name, viz.—

' *to reduce the allotment of Rs.* 1,28,700 *under Demand VII—Irrigation—Cauvery-Mettur project—Reserved, by Rs.* 100.'

My object in moving this cut motion is to criticize the policy which the Government have pursued in regard to this project. It is indeed very nice on the part of the Government to have started a colossal work such as this in order to give relief to an appreciable area in our province. At the time it was started, it was thought that it would bring in the millennium for Southern India and every ryot in the southern districts bordering the river Cauvery would be benefited by it. But now in actual practice, we find that it has been confined only to particular areas in Tanjore district and a small portion in Trichinopoly district, and it is not allowed to benefit either Salem or Coimbatore district in the least. Though the Government want to give almost the entire water to the Tanjore district, the mirasidars and the ryots of Tanjore are not satisfied and they are carrying on an agitation that they do not want this water as they cannot pay the high water-rates. When the work was started, however, it was thought that the Salem district also would be benefited at least to some extent. But, Sir, we are now asked to be satisfied with some investigation which they have made, and rest contented hearing the simple excuse that it is not possible to give any help to the Salem district. No doubt, the Government have made some efforts to have an investigation made, but the result, as I said, was not encouraging to us perhaps as they wanted it to be. It is not just that a district which has been made to suffer a good deal on account of the coming into existence of this reservoir should be given such an answer. I would urge on the Government to see that somehow or other this district gets some benefit out of this project for irrigation. Some time ago, I put forward a proposal before the Government that they should consider the question of introducing irrigation in the district by means of pumping. In reference to that also,

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I was given a negative reply. This system of irrigation by means of pumping is able to benefit small landholders owning a few acres, say 20 or 25 acres, whether it be by electricity or with the help of oil engines and we find many people are adopting to it. When it is so, I cannot imagine for a moment why it is not practicable for Government to undertake such a scheme. I would appeal to the Government that they should again take up and closely examine this question. When it is possible for individual ryots to take to pumping and thereby realize a profit from agriculture, there can be no insurmountable difficulty if only the Government will introduce such a scheme on a pretty large scale, say for an area of 1,000 or 2,000 acres in all convenient places. They need not go in for putting up any big canal or big channels and it is enough if small channels are dug at a very low cost, and the ryots also need not make any appreciable alterations in their lands by doing terracing, etc.

" Moreover, I think, Sir, in calculating the cost involved on this scheme, the Government are bringing in extraneous items like the cost of the Mettur dam and thereby arriving at an exorbitantly high water-rate to be levied on this scheme. It is perhaps on that basis that my proposal has been turned down. My proposal consists of taking water from the Cauvery further down the river at convenient points and the Mettur dam has nothing to do with this scheme. So, if the Government bestow due sympathy on the needs of the Salem district and recognize that they ought to give some irrigation facilities to the people of the district, for the hardship caused to many a people on account of putting up this dam here, I am sure they will examine the question once again and somehow or other see that some more irrigational facilities are provided to us from Cauvery water. Sir, I am now reminded by a hon. Member of the Treasury bench of the well-known maxim, where there is a will there is a way, and it cannot be impossible for the Government to do it provided they have the 'will,' and certainly they can find their 'way' to afford relief to our district."

The House then adjourned to meet again at 11 a.m. on the next day.

IV.—PAPER LAID ON THE TABLE OF THE HOUSE.

[a] *G.O. No.* 1695, *Development, dated 3rd December* 1935, *recording Audit Report of the Kerala Soap Institute, Calicut, for the year ending* 31*st March* 1935.

D. K. V. RAGHAVA VARMA,
Acting Secretary to the Legislative Council.

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[a] Printed as Appendix II at page 384 infra.

APPENDIX I.

[Vide answer to question No. 962 asked by Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 16th March 1936, page 322 supra.]

Resolution No. 10 passed at the nineteenth Session of the Madras Local and Municipal Engineers' Association.

This association respectfully once again urges on the Government the immediate necessity for the provincialization of the District Board Assistant Engineers to ensure security of service, varied technical experiences, freedom from local influences and the consequent economical expenditure of public funds and respectfully prays that the scheme of provincialization be given effect to immediately.

APPENDIX II.

[Vide item IV, at page 383 supra.]

G.O. No. 1695, Development, dated 3rd December 1935.

READ—the following papers:—

I

Letter from T. K. RAJAGOPALAN, Esq., B.A., Accountant-General (O.A. Section), to the Secretary to Government, Development Department, dated 23rd August 1935, No. O.A. 33 (*f*) 7/35–36/878.

I have the honour to forward herewith the audit report and accounts of the Kerala Soap Institute, Calicut, for the year ended 31st March 1935.

2. Copies of the audit report and accounts have been sent to the Secretary to the Government of Madras, Finance Department, the Director of Industries and the Superintendent, Kerala Soap Institute, Calicut, for information and necessary action.

ENCLOSURES

(1)

Audit report on the accounts of the Kerala Soap Institute, Calicut, for the year ending 31*st March* 1935.

I. (*a*) The accounts of the Institute for the year have been audited and the following accounts and schedules are appended hereto:—

(i) Balance sheet as at 31st March 1935.

(ii) Manufacturing account for the year ending 31st March 1935.

(iii) Trading account for the year ending 31st March 1935.

(iv) Profit and loss account for the year ending 31st March 1935.

(v) Schedule 'A' Depreciation Reserve account.

(*b*) Consequent on the introduction of the revised budget procedure with effect from the estimates and accounts for 1934–35 and the

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abolition of the personal ledger accounts, the statement showing the allocation of working capital and floating assets and liabilities prepared hitherto has not been prepared for the year under review.

(c) For the reasons stated in paragraph 2 of the audit report on the accounts for the year 1932–33, a combined profit and loss account instead of an account in two parts (Commercial and Educational) has been compiled this year also.

(d) The entire pay and allowances of the Superintendent and his assistants together with the indirect charges on account of leave and pensionary contribution have been distributed to working expenses of the Institute as shown in the margin.* The charges on account of Factory overheads have again been distributed among several kinds of soaps manufactured in proportion to the actual expenditure incurred on raw materials and wages of labourers. The charges on account of general overheads have been distributed among several kinds of soaps in proportion to the actual sales under each kind.

* (i) *Manufacturing account—Factory overheads.*—Two-thirds of the pay of the Superintendent and his two assistants together with the entire charges on account of store-keeping and wages of the coolies employed in the stores.

(ii) *Trading account—General overheads.*—One-third of the pay of the Superintendent and his assistants and the entire cost of office establishment.

(e) The annual subsidy given by Government on account of the educational activity has been credited to the manufacturing, trading and profit and loss accounts in proportion to the assumed expenditure under each of the accounts referred to above. The amount of subsidy so credited to the Manufacturing and Trading accounts has been distributed among several kinds of soaps in proportion to the actual expenditure and sales respectively.

(f) In addition to the subsidy of Rs. 14,500 per annum sanctioned in G.O. No. 297, Development, dated 27th February 1932, thereby giving credit to the commercial accounts for the educational expenditure incurred in the institute, a sum of Rs. 1,332 per annum on account of rent for the portion of the building used for the oil refining (non-commercial) section is credited to the accounts of the Commercial section of the Institute on the authority of G.O. No. 283, Development, dated 25th February 1932. The pay of the Chemistry Assistant and clerk engaged for this work have been charged to the non-commercial section, but no portion of the Superintendent's pay and allowances is charged to the oil refining work. As one of the principal reasons for the continuance of this Institute is the conduct of research in oil technology—vide G.O. Ms. No. 90, Development, dated 17th January 1935, it is for consideration whether a suitable proportion of the Superintendent's pay may be allocated to the non-commercial section.

II. *Financial results of the year.*—A statement is furnished below showing the output, and the profit for the year under report and the two previous years. The profit for the year, viz., Rs. 6,659 has been arrived at as usual after charging interest on capital amounting to

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Rs. 13,932 during the year under review. There was thus a reduction of Rs. 2,467 in the profit during the year even though the charges under "Interest on capital" were less by Rs. 2,264 than in the previous year. There was also a credit of Rs. 895 in the profit and loss account being the excess provision made in previous years on account of bad and doubtful debts.

	1932–33.	1933–34.	1934–35.
	TONS.	TONS.	TONS.
Output	251	203	170
Net profit	54,150	9,126	6,659

The causes for the diminution in the profit were—

(i) General reduction in selling prices with effect from September 1934.

(ii) Decreased sales in "Washwell," "Fish oil soft" and "Fish oil Rosin" soaps.

(iii) The increase of Rs. 5,211 under "General overheads."

There was a small reduction under factory overheads amounting to Rs. 1,856 which was not proportional to the reduction in the output.

III. The output of the Institute during the year was only 170 tons against 203 tons and 251 tons in 1933–34 and 1932–33, respectively. The fall in output was under all the soaps.

The reduction in the output was stated to be due to the lesser demand of the soaps from the agents than in the previous years owing to the competition of other locally manufactured and imported soaps.

IV. (*a*) *Trading account.*—The trading account shows a gross profit of Rs. 10,068 this year against that of Rs. 6,467 in 1933–34. The increase is due to the distribution of the subsidy in the Manufacturing and Trading accounts (Total Rs. 11,408–12–0) among several soaps in proportion to the expenditure incurred for educational activities.

The decline in the sale of soaps was however slightly arrested in September 1934 by reduction in the selling prices.

(*c*) *Dryage and wastage.*—The actual loss by dryage during the year under review did not exceed the limits prescribed by Government therefor.

V. *Purchase of coconut oil.*—The Government in G.O. Ms. No. 1141, Development, dated 9th August 1934, sanctioned the purchase of 5 tons of oil at Rs. 55 per candy and 10 tons at Rs. 57 per candy from firms other than those tendered at the time. Again in G.O. Ms. No. 1587, Development, dated 20th November 1934, the Government sanctioned the purchase of coconut oil not exceeding 35 tons when prices were favourable. The quantities purchased, the rate and the date of purchase are given below:—

TONS.	CWT.	LB.	RS.	
5	0	0	70 per candy of 700 lb.	August 1934.
4	19	111	220 per ton ..	8th December 1934.
4	7	95	265 „ ..	24th January 1935.
4	16	13	285 „ ..	30th January 1935.
2	19	79	256 „ ..	28th February 1935.

The payment of higher rates in August 1934 than those sanctioned by Government is brought to notice.

VI. (*a*) *Sale agents and stockists.*—Agreements were not entered into with certain firms even though they were allowed to transact business.

Early steps may be taken for the execution of agreements so as to avoid any legal complications—vide also in this connexion the remarks contained in paragraphs 7 and 8 of the audit reports for the years 1932–33 and 1933–34 recorded in G.Os. No. 487, Development, dated 10th April 1934, and No. 70. Development, dated 12th January 1935, respectively. As the period of the agreements entered into commences from 1st April, the preliminaries should be commenced sufficiently early about a month or two in advance so that the contract would have been signed before the goods were sent to them.

(*b*) The system of allowing credits in excess of the agreement amount already was noticed in the audit reports for the years 1932–33 and 1933–34—vide paragraphs 7 (*a*) and 8 (*b*) respectively and discouraged by Government—vide paragraph 5 of G.O. No. 487, Development, dated 10th April 1934. Future sales to agents should be so regulated that the permissible limits are not exceeded at any time.

(*c*) As per the terms of the agreements entered into with the sales agents and under Standing Order No. 25 interest at 12 per cent per annum should be charged in respect of any amount not paid within three months from the date of invoice. The amount due on this account from the agents with respect to sales made during the period from 1st April 1934 to 31st March 1935 works out to Rs. 1,984.

Necessary action may be taken to get these amounts waived by Government as was done in the last year.

VII. *Profit and loss account.*—The sum of Rs. 14,500 given by Government as subsidy for the training of apprentices has been distributed during the current year among the production, trading and profit and loss account in proportion to the assumed expenditure under each, on educational activities—vide paragraph 1 (*e*). The number of students who were trained during the three years ended 1934–35 is given below:—

	1932–33.	1933–34.	1934–35.
Long term course	12	9	12
Short term course	4	...	1

A sum of Rs. 895 has been credited to this account being the excess provision made in previous years on account of bad and doubtful debts.

VIII. *Balance sheet—Assets—*(*a*) *Plant and machinery—Rupees 13,949–14–2—Additions.*—Rs. 515 represents the value of G.I. tanks obtained from the Industrial school.

(*b*) *Furniture and fittings—Rs. 836–9–3—Additions.*—Rs. 292 represents the cost of two cycles and a portable typewriter obtained during the year.

Deduction.—Rs. 140 represents the cost of bicycle sold during the year for Rs. 32. The excess amount of Rs. 26 over the depreciated value was credited to the profit and loss account and the balance of Rs. 6 was credited to the furniture and fitting account.

(c) *Laboratory apparatus*—Rs. 218-6-0.—As in the previous years, no depreciation has been charged on this asset.

(d) *Store and raw materials—Rs.* 40,561–15–5.—The value of the stock of raw materials on 31st March 1935 was Rs. 40,562 as against Rs. 36,998 and Rs. 51,804 on the 31st March of the two preceding years.

The raw materials have been valued at cost price as this has been certified to be below the current market price. Stock was taken by the Industrial Engineer, Madras, and the following excesses and shortages were noticed:—

	Excess.			Shortage.		
	RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.
Raw materials	360	15	6	214	5	7
Packing materials	0	1	2	41	12	6
Perfumes	40	8	3	34	3	1
Firewood	...			136	11	6

The shortage under firewood has been adjusted in the accounts of the contractor. The net excess under other materials has been adjusted in the accounts but the shortage of Rs. 290-5-2 requires the sanction of the Director of Industries to write off the accounts.

(e) *Reserve for perfumes—Rs.* 636–14–5.—In G.O. Ms. No. 847, Development, dated 28th June 1934, the Government sanctioned the retention of the perfumes till the end of 1934–35. The value of perfumes utilized during the last two years ending 31st March 1935 was only Rs. 43-8-7. The question of the disposal of the perfumes for which a reserve was created in 1924–25 may be considered as the quantity was very small.

(f) *Finished stock.*—The closing stock of soaps for the year under report and for the two preceding years is given below:—

	1932–33.	1933–34.	1934–35.
	RS.	RS.	RS.
Soap in basis	23,271	15,247	23,780
Stock in trade	9,639	12,715	19,387
Total ...	32,910	27,962	43,167

The stock was verified by the Industrial Engineer and there were no appreciable discrepancies.

The closing stock of soaps has increased considerably and steps may be taken for the early sale.

(*g*) *Sundry debtors—Rs.* 43,911–13–9.—The whole amount due (Rs. 3,190) from the debtor whose appeal was dismissed with costs and referred to in the previous audit report has been recovered. The second appeal preferred by the other judgment-debtor, has also been dismissed with costs. The recovery of the amount is awaited. The bad debts reserve has therefore been reduced by Rs. 895 and the reserve now stands at Rs. 2,361–5–2. The amount due from the sundry debtors after allowing for the credit balances together with the turnover at the end of March 1935 and the two previous years is given below:—

Year.	Sundry debtors.	Turnover.	Percentage.
	RS.	RS.	PER CENT.
1932–33	82,846	2,44,993	33
1933–34	69,074	1,69,678	41
1934–35	43,912	1,38,406	32

The percentage of outstanding amount to the total turnover at the end of the year under report is less than those of the two previous years.

(*h*) *Depreciation reserve deposited with Government—Rupees* 62,459–6–10.—The balance outstanding under this head on 31st March 1934 is shown in the balance sheet as per the orders contained in Government, Finance Memorandum No. 14611-B.G., dated 16th May 1934, issued in modification of orders contained in paragraph 9 of the memorandum relatign to the Kerala Soap Institute annexed to G.O. No. 1407, Development, dated 20th November 1933.

Schedule 'A' showing the depreciation reserve account as it stood on 31st March 1935 is also attached to this report.

IX. *Liabilities—Capital—Government of Madras—Rs.* 2,68,234-12-2. —The balance in the personal ledger accounts after making the necessary adjustments during the year have been adjusted in the Government accounts as per the instructions contained in paragraph 9 of the memorandum of the Kerala Soap Institute attached to G.O. No. 1407, Development, dated 20th November 1933.

X. *Accountant-General, Madras—Rs.* 2–5–0.—The amount represents the adjustment made by the Accountant-General, twice to the credit of the Institute. The Superintendent, Kerala Soap Institute, has addressed the Accountant-General in June 1935 to send the chalan in order to regularize the double adjustment.

XI. *Certificate.*—Subject to the foregoing remarks I certify that I have obtained all the information and explanations I have required and that the balance sheet signed by me as relative hereto, in my opinion, exhibits a true and correct view of the state of affairs of the Kerala Soap Institute, Calicut, as on the 31st March 1935, according to the best of my information and explanations given to me and as shown by the books of the Institute.

MADRAS,
21*st August* 1934.

S. C. SEN,
for *Examiner, Outside Audit Department.*

(2)

Balance sheet as at 31st March 1935.

CAPITAL AND LIABILITIES.

	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.
Capital—Government of Madras as per balance sheet as at 31st March 1934		2,89,104 6 8	
Less balance in personal ledger account No. 1	7,182 10 1		
Less balance in personal ledger account No. 2	1,056 12 4		
		8,180 6 5	2,80,015 0 3
Add payments and adjustment, etc., in the year		1,56,614 15 4	
Add adjustments of indirect charges, viz., pension and leave salary, contribution, audit fee, direction charges, etc.		4,962 4 0	
Add interest on capital ..	13,932 3 3		
Less interest on department reserve with Government ..	3,254 2 0		
		10,678 1 3	
Add cash balance		237 14 2	
			1,72,493 2 9
			4,53,408 3 0
Less receipts paid into the treasury, etc. ..		1,69,341 6 10	
Less adjustment of rent from non-commercial section and subsidy		15,832 0 0	
			1,85,173 6 10
			2,68,234 12 2
Reserve for bad and doubtful debts		..	2,361 5 2
Security Deposits invested per contra—			
Storekeeper		1,005 0 0	
Firewood contractor		300 0 0	
Cash clerk		250 0 0	
			1,555 0 0
Liabilities—			
For goods supplied		4,256 15 5	
For expenses		2,966 11 9	
For student's deposit		10 0 0	
For customers credit balances		229 8 11	
			7,463 4 1
		Carried over ..	2,79,614 5 5

PROPERTY AND ASSETS.

	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.
Government land for the institute as per last balance sheet ..	..	..	23,021 0 3
Buildings as per last balance sheet.	..	91,530 10 10	
Less depreciation to end of 1933–34	35,359 11 7		
Less depreciation for the year ..	3,140 0 0		
		38,490 11 7	53,030 15 3
Plant and machinery as per last balance sheet	..	56,741 9 11	
Add additions during the year.	..	515 0 0	
		57,256 9 11	
Less depreciation to end of 1933–34	41,080 8 11		
Less depreciation for the year.	2,226 2 10		
		43,306 11 9	13,949 14 2
Furniture and fittings as per last balance sheet	..	4,276 8 0	
Less sale of old bicycles ..	..	140 0 0	
		4,136 8 0	
Add additions during the year.	..	292 0 0	
		4,428 8 0	
Depreciation to end of 1933–34 ..	3,335 7 8		
Less depreciated value on account of bicycles sold	134 0 0		
	3,201 7 8		
Plus depreciation for the year 1934–35	390 7 1		
Net depreciation to end of 1934–35.	..	3,591 14 9	
			836 9 3
Laboratory apparatus	..	218 6 0	
Chemicals at cost	..	147 3 3	
			366 3 3
Library books	..	..	372 5 0
Loose tools at valuation	..	..	652 10 0
		Carried over ..	92,229 9 2

Balance sheet as at 31st March 1935—*cont.*

CAPITAL AND LIABILIEIES.

	RS. A. P.
Brought forward ..	2,79,614 5 5
For suspense—Accountant-General, Madras	2 5 0
profit for the year	6,659 6 6
Total ..	2,86,276 0 1

PROPERTY AND ASSESTS.

		RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.
Brought forward ..			92,229 9 2
Stores and nan materials—			
Perfumes, essential oils, colours, etc.	18,558 10 6		
Less reserve for unused perfumes	636 14 5		
		17,921 12 1	
Other raw materials	..	13,352 8 3	
Packing materials, firewood and stationery	..	9,287 11 1	
			40,561 15 5
Soap in basis	..	23,780 11 0	
Stock-in-trade	..	19,386 8 7	
			43,167 3 7
Book debts—considered good ..	..	41,780 1 6	
Book debts—considered doubtful	..	2,361 5 2	
			44,141 6 8
Fixed deposits from employees, etc., as security per contra ..	..	..	1,555 0 0
Electric licence deposit ..	..	..	30 0 0
Advance to workmen	..	..	6 14 0
Prepaid expenses—Salt supervision fee ..	..	100 0 0	
Advertisement charges ..	..	611 11 4	
			711 11 4
Cash balance—			
Cash and cheques unadjusted and unremitted on 31st March 1935	..	237 14 2	
Service labels	..	4 15 9	
			242 13 11
Value of Doway Mill retained for demonstration purposes ..	..	..	1,170 0 0
Depreciation Reserve deposited with Government	..	..	62,459 6 10
Total ..			2,86,276 0 11

Examined and found correct subject to my report of even date.

MADRAS,
21st *August* 1935.

S. C. SEN,
for *Examiner, Outside Audit Department.*

(3)

Manufacturing account for the year ended 31st March 1935.

Particulars—Debits.	Vegetol soap. (1)	Washwell soap. (2)	Toilet soap basis. (3)	Shaving soap basis. (4)	Miscellaneous soap. (5)
	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.
To Stock in process of manufacture	36 12 7	11,897 11 7	2,808 2 6	447 3 8	1 13 2
" Raw materials, scraps of other soaps and firewood used	3,704 5 1	24,044 4 9	18,659 10 11	1,120 13 6	573 5 6
" Wages	74 11 1	1,278 0 3	578 11 6	23 15 0	11 6 11
" Factory overheads	1,422 10 3	9,532 1 9	7,243 4 5	431 0 3	220 0 9
Total ..	5,238 7 0	46,747 2 4	29,289 13 4	2,023 0 5	806 10 4

Particulars—Debits.	Soft soap. (6)	F.O. Rosin soap. (7)	Liquid soap. (8)	Demonstration soap. (9)	Total. (10)
	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.
To Stock in process of manufacture	..	..	54 13 9	..	15,246 9 3
" Raw materials, scraps of other soaps and firewood used	469 6 11	3,751 7 3	135 13 0	4,285 6 0	56,745 7 11
" Wages	33 15 9	28 5 8	4 13 7	29 5 10	2,058 5 2
Factory overheads	189 2 7	1,433 0 4	54 5 7	1,624 8 0	22,140 1 11
Total ..	692 9 3	5,202 12 10	250 13 11	5,939 2 10	96,190 8 3

Particulars—Credits.	Vegetol soap. (1)	Washwell soap. (2)	Toilet soap basis. (3)	Shaving soap basis. (4)	Miscellaneous soap. (5)
	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.
By Scraps used for other soaps	751 7 7	200 8 7	410 10 0	629 9 8	147 2 9
" Finished soaps transferred to trading account	4,086 7 0	28,877 6 11	19,187 10 10	1,004 1 1	572 1 2
" Stock in process of manufacture	..	14,984 6 1	7,651 7 3	273 15 4	25 0 0
" Subsidy	400 8 5	2,684 12 9	2,040 1 3	121 6 4	61 15 5
Total ..	5,238 7 0	46,747 2 4	29,289 13 4	2,028 0 5	806 10 4

Particulars—Credits.	Soft soap. (6)	F.O. Rosin soap. (7)	Liquid soap. (8)	Demonstration soap. (9)	Total. 10)
	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. A.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.
By Scraps used for other soaps	..	..	..	3,455 3 7	5,589 1 2
" Finished soaps transferred to trading account	639 5 6	4,802 0 0	235 10 7	..	59,404 11 1
" Stock in process of manufacture	..	..	..	845 14 4	23,780 11 0
" Subsidy	53 3 9	400 12 10	15 3 4	1,668 0 11	7,416 1 0
Total ..	692 9 3	5,202 12 10	250 13 11	5,939 2 10	96,190 8 3

(x)

Trading account for the year ended 31st March 1935.

Particulars—Debits. (1)	Vegetal soap. (2) Rs. A. P.	Washwell soap. (3) Rs. A. P.	Toilet soap. (4) Rs. A. P.	Shaving soap. (5) Rs. A. P.	Soft soap. (6) Rs. A. P.	F.O. Rosin soap. (7) Rs. A. P.
To Stock on hand	1,066 5 1	4,466 6 2	* 5,711 11 11	* 223 3 9	311 2 2	698 8 0
,, Soap received from factory	4,086 7 0	20,877 6 11	19,187 10 10	1,004 1 1	689 5 6	4,802 0 0
,, Perfumes and essential oils	..	..	14,595 4 10	468 12 4	..	..
,, Packing, despatching charges and electric current	694 12 1	4,409 11 5	12,843 12 4	1,066 3 2	146 11 1	344 8 11
,, General overheads, including selling expenses	2,463 14 0	15,662 1 5	25,465 11 2	1,189 8 4	347 7 0	1,987 9 11
,, Gross profit	..	3,478 6 1	6,225 13 3	119 11 0	..	405 11 9
Total	8,311 6 2	56,894 0 0	84,030 0 4	4,071 7 2	1,444 10 3	8,218 6 7

	Miscellaneous soap. (8) Rs. A. P.	Monopole soap. (9) Rs. A. P.	Cheap bar soap. (10) Rs. A. P.	Liquid soap. (11) Rs. A. P.	Durus soap. (12) Rs. A. P.	Total. (13) Rs. A. P.
To Stock on hand	47 0 10	102 12 0	8 5 9	17 1 5	63 2 3	12,715 10 10
,, Soap received from factory	572 1 2	..	..	235 10 7	..	59,404 11 1
,, Perfumes and essential oils	..	..	..	..	..	15,064 1 1
,, Packing despatching charges and electric current	77 6 9	16 0 2	8 12 5	126 8 3	..	19,734 7 2
,, General overheads including selling expenses	318 4 1	74 2 7	6 4 2	136 12 10	..	47,631 11 6
,, Gross profit	219 4 5	118 3 5	7 2 11	26 5 1	..	10,600 9 11
Total	1,234 1 3	311 2 2	30 9 3	542 6 2	63 2 3	1,65,151 3 7

Particulars—Credits. (1)	Vegetol soap. (2) Rs. A. P.	Washwell soap. (3) Rs. A. P.	Toilet soap. (4) Rs. A. P.	Shaving soap. (5) Rs. A. P.	Soft soap. (6) Rs. A. P.	F.O. Rosin soap. (7) Rs. A. P.
By Sales less returns	7,159 6 7	45,510 2 3	73,997 0 3	3,456 7 2	1,009 9 0	5,717 6 9
,, Soaps reboiled or transferred to other soaps	374 10 7	322 12 8	141 6 11	..	52 5 8	..
,, Free samples	12 8 6	74 2 6	1,609 11 1	185 14 6	0 10 3	6 4 10
,, Stock on hand	228 15 0	9,674 4 5	6,146 7 1	379 6 6	149 8 6	2,329 12 0
,, Subsidy	206 8 6	1,312 10 2	2,136 7 0	99 11 0	29 2 0	164 15 0
,, Loss	320 5 0	..	..	..	203 6 10	..
Total	8,311 6 2	56,894 0 3	84,030 0 4	4,071 7 2	1,444 10 3	8,218 6 7

	Miscellaneous soap. (8) Rs. A. P.	Monopole soap. (9) Rs. A. P.	Cheap bar soap. (10) Rs. A. P.	Liquid soap. (11) Rs. A. P.	Durus soap (12) Rs. A. P.	Total. (13) Rs. A. P.
By Sales less returns	924 12 3	215 8 0	18 3 0	397 8 3	..	1,38,405 15 6
,, Soaps reboiled or transferred to other soaps	0 9 3	..	..	..	63 2 3	954 15 4
,, Free samples	0 11 9	..	..	38 5 11	..	1,878 5 4
,, Stock on hand	281 10 0	89 8 0	11 14 3	95 2 10	..	19,886 8 7
,, Subsidy	26 6 0	6 2 2	0 8 0	11 5 2	..	3,902 11 0
,, Loss	..	..	..	..	..	532 11 10
Total	1,234 1 3	311 2 2	30 9 3	542 6 2	63 2 3	1,65,151 3 7

* NOTE.—Manufactory operations on two soaps are not complete until the perfumes and essential oils are added to the soap basis. In respect to these soaps this account is also a finishing and trading account.

(5)

Profit and Loss account for the year ending 31st March 1935.

	RS.	A.	P.		RS.	A.	P.
To Interest on Capital	13,932	3	3	By gross profit from Trading Account	10,067	14	1
„ Advertising charges calling in applications from apprentices, etc.	101	14	0	„ Rent from 35. b. Industries—Experimental section	1,332	0	0
„ Balance—Net profit—Carried to balance sheet	6,659	6	6	„ Fees from apprentices ..	1,435	0	0
				„ Sundry sales, etc.	345	14	3
				„ Miscellaneous	191	1	8
				„ Reserve for bad and doubtful debts reduced	895	0	0
				„ Subsidy (balance after crediting Manufacturing and Trading Account)	3,091	4	0
				„ Interest on depreciation reserve deposited with Government ..	3,254	2	0
				„ Stock difference	81	3	9
Total ..	20,693	7	9	Total. ..	20,693	7	9

(6)

Schedule 'A'—Depreciation Reserve Account, 1934–35.

	RS.	A.	P.		RS.	A.	P.
Amount deposited with Government as per report of 1933–34 ..	62,459	6	10	Depreciation on buildings, 1934–35. ..	38,499	11	7
Balance remaining to be deposited	22,938	15	3	Depreciation on Plant and Machinery. ..	43,306	11	9
				Depreciation on furniture and fittings ..	3,591	14	9
	85,398	6	1		85,398	6	1

II

Letter from L. B. Green, Esq., M.B.E., Acting Director of Industries, to the Secretary to Government, Development Department, dated 19th October 1935, No. 1296-G/35.

I submit the following remarks on the audit report of the Kerala Soap Institute, Calicut, for the year ended 31st March 1935.

2. *Paragraph I (f)*.—The question of allocating a suitable proportion of the Superintendent's pay to the non-commercial section of the institute as suggested by the Accountant-General is engaging my attention and a report in this regard will be submitted to Government separately.

3. *Paragraphs II, III and IV*.—The result of the working of the institute for the year is a net profit of Rs. 6,659 after charging an amount of Rs. 13,932 towards interest on capital. If regard be had to the difficult trading conditions which prevailed during the year, the results obtained may be considered satisfactory, for not only had strong competition to be faced both from the organized factories and the numberless small establishments, but prices of well-known foreign soaps were drastically reduced.

4. *Paragraph V—Purchase of coconut oil.*—The Accountant-General's presumption that the institute purchased coconut oil at a rate higher than that sanctioned by Government is incorrect. In G.O. No. 1141, Development, dated 9th August 1934, Government merely approved the action of the Director in having placed orders for 5 tons at Rs. 55 per candy and 10 tons at Rs. 57 per candy. They did not pass any orders in regard to the purchase of further requirements. But in this office letter No. 248-G/34, dated 22nd May 1934, Government were informed that the balance requirements of the oil would be purchased as and when required on the most favourable terms and after calling for competitive quotations. The purchase of 5 tons of oil in August 1934, at the rate of Rs. 70 per candy was therefore in order as that was the lowest quotation that could be secured then.

5. *Paragraph VI.*—(*a*) In this connexion, it is submitted that though the agency agreements are executed, after the expiry of the previous ones, the consent of the agents to the renewal of their agencies is always obtained in writing, in advance, and there is therefore no possibility of legal complications arising. The question of the renewal of agencies is always taken up sufficiently early, but considerable time is often taken up in observing legal formalities.

(*b*) *Excess credits.*—As directed in paragraph 4 of G.O. No. 70, Development, dated 12th January 1935, the Superintendent has been instructed not to allow excess credits to agents. During the year under review there were excess credits in the cases of two agents. Though the observance of the orders may hamper to some extent, the business of an agent, the Superintendent has been instructed to follow strictly the orders of Government in this regard. In the case of the Madras agent, though the ledger account shows that he has been allowed excess credit, the agent has been placed in possession of the goods only after the receipt of the amount covered by excess credit, the railway receipts being released by the Superintendent only after the excess credit amount is paid by the agent.

Excess credit in the case of the Madura agent occurred when the agent asked for an extension of time to pay his dues, and during the time that lapsed between the date of retiring the draft at Madura and the date on which the amount was actually credited to the accounts of the agent at Calicut. The Superintendent has pointed out that in these instances it would not be possible to enforce the rules strictly unless the institute was prepared to forego business.

(*c*) *Interest on amounts not paid within the credit period.*—The interest to be waived during the year is Rs. 1,984 as against Rs. 2,497 in the previous year. The waiving of interest has become necessary as there was hardly any improvement in trade conditions and the agents often experienced great difficulty in collecting their outstandings. It would not be in the interests of the institute's business to enforce, under these circumstances, the conditions relating to the payment of interest on overdue amounts. Government were pleased to waive the recovery of interest in previous years, and it is requested that the amount of Rs. 1,984 may also be waived as suggested by the Accountant-General.

6. *Paragraph VIII—Balance sheet—(d) Stores and raw materials.*—The stock verification was conducted by the Industrial Engineer. Explanations for the excesses and deficiencies noticed have been obtained and are under scrutiny. Orders will be issued shortly sanctioning the writing off of the shortage of Rs. 290–5–2.

(*e*) *Reserve for perfumes.*—The Superintendent states that the perfumes in question are being used in small quantities and are also useful for instructing the students. He further states that if they are offered for sale it is not likely that they will fetch much. In these circumstances, I consider that the perfumes may be retained for the present. I shall go into the question of using them up in the institute itself when I visit Calicut next.

(*f*) *Finished stock.*—The stocks of soaps on 31st March 1935 have almost all been since disposed of. The sales are showing improvement.

(*h*) *Depreciation reserve—Deposited with Government.*—The Superintendent has stated that there is still a balance of Rs. 22,938-15-3 to be deposited with Government out of the total reserve made on account of depreciation on assets. He desires to deposit this sum also with Government and I am addressing the Accountant-General to indicate the procedure to be adopted in making the adjustment since the gross budgeting system is in vogue.

Order—No. 1695, *Development, dated* 3*rd December* 1935.

Recorded.

2. *Paragraph I* (*f*) *of the Audit Report and the Director's remarks thereon—Allocation of a suitable proportion of the Superintendent's pay to the non-commercial section of the institute.*—The Director's proposals in this regard are awaited.

3. *Paragraph V of the Audit Report and Director's remarks thereon—Purchase of coconut oil.*—The Director is requested to report when the order for the purchase of five tons of oil at the rate of Rs. 70 per candy was placed and when the purchase was actually effected.

4. *Paragraph VI* (*b*) *of the Audit Report and Director's remarks thereon—Excess credits to agents.*—In contravention of the existing orders, excess credits have been allowed to the agents. The Director is requested to instruct the Superintendent that future sales to the agents must be so regulated that the permissible limits are not exceeded at any time. In exceptional circumstances, the Superintendent of the institute should obtain the orders of the Government.

5. *Paragraph VI* (*c*) *of the Audit Report and Director's remarks thereon.*—The Government are pleased to waive the recovery of interest amounting to Rs. 1,984 (rupees one thousand, nine hundred and eighty-four) due from the agents.

6. *Paragraph VIII* (*e*) *of the Audit Report and the Director's remarks thereon—Reserve for perfumes.*—The Director is requested to report the results of his inspection of the stock of perfumes.

7. *Paragraph VIII (h) of the Audit Report and the Director's remarks thereon—Depreciation reserve deposited with Government.*—As the gross budgeting system has been introduced with effect from 1st April 1934, and the personal ledger accounts of the commercial concerns have been closed, the Accountant-General has, in his letter No. O.A. 33 (*b*) 31/35-36/2181, dated 25th/28th October 1935, raised the question of adjustment in Government accounts on account of depreciation. Orders on this point will be issued separately.

(By order of the Government, Ministry of Public Works)

C. A. HENDERSON,
Secretary to Government.

To the Secretary, Legislative Council, for placing on the Council Table.
,, Librarian, Legislative Council Office.

THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF THE GOVERNOR OF MADRAS.

Tuesday, the 17th March 1936.

The House met at eleven of the clock, Mr. President (the Hon. Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI) in the Chair.

PRESENT :

Reddi Nayudu, *Kt.*, The Hon. Rai Bahadur Sir K. V.
Pannirselvam, The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T.
Souter, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., I.C.S., The Hon. Sir Charles.
Bracken, The Hon. Mr. G. T. H.
Raja of Bobbili, K.C.I.E., The Hon. the.
Rajan, The Hon. Mr. P. T.
Kumaraswami Reddiyar, The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S.
Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur.
Ahmed Meeran Sahib Bahadur.
Alamelumangathayaramma, Mrs. K.
Annamalai Chettiyar, Mr. S. A. A.
Appadurai Pillai, Diwan Bahadur A.
Arasu, Mr. V. T.
Basheer Ahmed Sayeed Sahib Bahadur.
Basu Dev, Mr. C.
Boag, C.I.E., I.C.S., Mr. G. T.
Dalavoi, Mr. R.
Devadasan, Mr. M.
Dharmalingam Pillai, Rao Sahib V.
Duraiswami Reddiyar, Mr. K. M.
Foulkes, Mr. G. F. F.
Gopalaswami Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur M.
Halasyam Ayyar, Mr. N.
Harischandrudu Nayudu, Mr. A.
Indrayya, Mr. C.
Iswaran Pillai, Mr. I. C.
Jagannatham, Mr. H. M.
Jayaram Nayudu, Rao Sahib C.
Jones, I.C.S., Mr. C. E.
Kesavaramamurti Nayudu, Mr. K.
Khalif-ul-lah Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur P.
Kolanda Reddi, Rai Sahib C.
Koti Reddi, Mr. K.
Krishnayya Choudari, Mr. P. V.
Krishnamurti, Rao Bahadur D.
Kumararaja of Venkatagiri, The.
Kuppuswami Choudari, Mr. J.
Madanagopal Nayudu, Mr. R.
Manikkavelu Nayakar, Mr. M. A.
Moidoo Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur T. M.
Moses, Mr. P. C.
Muhammad Meera Ravuttar, Mr. K. P. V. S.
Muniswami Pillai, Rao Sahib V. I.
Nachiyappa Gounder, Mr. K. A.
Nadimuthu Pillai, Mr. A. Pl. N. V.
Nanjappa Bahadur, Rao Bahadur Subadar-Major S. A.
Narasa Reddi, Mr. T.
Narayanan Nambiyar, Mr. V. P.
Natesa Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur C.
Obi Reddi, Mr. C.
Palat, Mr. R. M.
Patnaik Mahasayo, Sriman M. G.
Patro, K.C.I.E., Rao Bahadur Sir A. P.
Peddi Raju, Mr. P.
Pocker Sahib Bahadur, B.
Premayya, Mr. G. R.
Rajagopala Pillai, Mr. P. V.
Ramachandra Padayachi, Mr. P. K.
Ramakrishna Reddi, Mr. A.
Ramalingam Chettiyar, Diwan Bahadur T. A.
Ramalinga Reddi, Mr. C.
Ramamurti, Rao Sahib Pandit Ganala.
Raman Menon, Mr. K. P.
Ramaswami Ayyar, Mr. T. S.
Rameswara Rao, Mr. G.
Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. A.
Ranganatham, Mr. N.
Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur C. S.
Ratnavelu Thevar, Mr. P.
Reid, Mr. D. M.
Rukmani Lakshmipathi, Mrs. A.
Russell, I.C.S., Mr. T. B.
Schamnad Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur Mahmud.
Scott Brown, I.C.S., Mr. W.
Sesha Reddi, Rao Bahadur B. P.
Shetty, Mr. A. B.
Simhachalam Pantulu, Mr. G.
Siva Raj, Rao Sahib N.
Sivasubrahmanya Ayyar, Mr. K. S.
Smith, Mr. J. M.
Soundara Pandian, Mr. W. P. A.
Sreshta, Mr. M. S.
Srinivasan, Diwan Bahadur R.
Sriramulu, Mr. G.
Subbarayan, Dr. P.
Subrahmanya Bhatt, Mr. U. C.
Sundara Rao Nayudu, Mr. T.
Syed Tajuddin Sahib Bahadur, Khan Sahib.
Thangal, Mr. P. M.

PRESENT—*cont.*

Uzielli, C.I.E., I.C.S., Mr. H. R.
Vasudeva Pillai, Mr. V. G.
Venugopal Nayudu, Rao Bahadur R. K.
Wright, *Kt.*, Sir William.
Yahya Ali Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur.
Yakub Hasan Sahib Bahadur.
Zamindar of Bodinayakkanur, The.
Zamindar of Kirlampudi, The.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Education

Recruitment of secondary-grade trained teachers for the quinquennium ending 1935.

* 968 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many secondary-grade trained teachers have been recruited in the schools department in the Madras Educational Subordinate Service in each of the branches of men and women in each year for the past five years including the year 1935; and

(*b*) what the numbers are according to communities and according to districts (each separately) in each of those years?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The information required is given in the appended statements.[a]

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—" May I ask the Hon. Minister whether the vacancies of such teachers arising in each district are given preferably to candidates coming from that district? "

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" There is no such rule, Sir."

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—" May I ask the reason why the number of candidates appointed from some communities is much less than it ought to be? "

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" Notice, Sir."

Local Self-Government

Pay of pandits exempted from the qualifications prescribed.

* 969 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the matter of fixing a definite scale of pay to pandits who were exempted from prescribed qualifications referred to in clauses

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[a] Printed as Appendix I on page 470 infra.

17th March 1936]

(c) and (d) of question No. 659 answered at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on 31st January 1936 has been considered by the Government and orders passed; and

(b) if so, whether a copy of the order will be placed on the table?

A.—(a) & (b) Attention is invited to G.O. No. 621, L. & M., dated the 15th February 1936, which was placed on the table in reply to question No. 941 answered on 13th March 1936.

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—" With regard to these pandits, I am told that orders were passed in February 1936. May I ask the Hon. Minister whether any subsequent representations have been received for a reconsideration of the order? "

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—" So many representations were being received, but the final orders of Government have been passed in G.O. No. 621, which has already been laid on the table of the House."

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—" My question is, apart from many other representations, whether any representations in this particular matter have been received for reconsideration of the said Government Order after it has been issued."

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—" Probably they have been received, but I have not seen them."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—" May I know, Sir, whether Government will consider the further question of revision of the scales of these pandits? "

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—" There is no question about it at all. Government have revised the scales for all title-holders so that those pandits who were exempted in 1926 continue as they are and their emoluments are not likely to be affected."

Representations from pandits employed under district boards for a definite scale of pay.

* 970 Q.—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) how many representations have been received from pandits employed in the high schools under the district boards and municipalities prior to 1st June 1926 and who were exempted from prescribed qualifications, requesting the Government to fix definitely the scale of pay which has been fixed to pandits holding titles or proficiency certificates, and from whom each of such representations has been received;

(b) whether they have been referred to the Director of Public Instruction for remarks; and if so, when;

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(c) what remarks he offered; whether a copy of it will be placed on the table; and

(d) whether final orders have been passed in the matter and, if so, whether a copy of it will be placed on the table?

A.—*Attention is invited to G.O. No. 621, L. & M., dated the 15th February 1936, which was placed on the table in reply to question No. 941 answered on 13th March 1936. The Government do not consider that any useful purpose will be served by placing any further details on the table.*

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—" Sir, may I know whether the fact that they have been exempted from prescribed qualification, is not to be construed as making them eligible for the higher scale of pay? "

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—" I am afraid my hon. Friend has not understood the position. In 1926 all these old types of pandits have been exempted because Government did not want that they should be thrown out of employment; and then new scales of pay were fixed which were intended to apply only to title-holders."

Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO:—" May I know, Sir, whether there are several pandits who are not title-holders and who are or are fit to be examiners for title-holders and why they should not draw the increased scales of pay? "

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—" They have been drawing that scale."

Reforms

Accommodation for the new Provincial Legislative Assembly.

* 971 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the Hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether there are any proposals to take the Senate House on rent for accommodating the new Provincial Legislative Assembly to be inaugurated under the new Reforms;

(b) if so, what they are;

(c) what the rent proposed to be given for such accommodation is;

(d) whether it is for part-time occupation or full-time occupation; and

(e) what the alterations and arrangements are that are to be made to make the building fit for occupation and what the estimated cost for the same is?

A.—(a) & (b) Yes. There is a proposal under consideration to take the Senate House on lease for the accommodation of the Provincial Legislative Assembly under the new Constitution till a suitable building to accommodate both the Chambers of the Legislature has been constructed.

(c) Rs. 1,500 per mensem.

(d) For full-time occupation.

(e) The main alterations and arrangements are indicated below. It is estimated that the total cost will be about Rs. 1,26,000.

Alterations and arrangements.

	RS.
(1) Putting up galleries for Members in the main hall and galleries for visitors and an enclosure for His Excellency the Governor's box	8,699
(2) Providing partitions in the halls in the ground floor and first floor on the south side of the Senate House and on the ground floor and first floor at the north side in order to provide rooms for the President, Council Secretary, for the Members of Government and Secretaries to Government and for party rooms, rooms for lady Members, visitors and the staff of the Assembly ...	4,963
(3) Providing garages, latrines, outhouses, sanitary installations and drainages ...	25,000
(4) Improvements to the basement of the Senate House for providing lunch rooms and library	3,000
(5) Providing electric installations, microphones, loud-speakers, etc.	35,000
(6) Furniture for the Assembly hall, carpets, side curtains and coir-mats ...	35,500
(7) Unforeseen items which may be found necessary during execution and contingencies	13,838
	1,26,000

Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder :—"May I ask the Hon. Member whether in view of the fact that this heavy expenditure of Rs. 1,26,000 is intended for temporary purposes, they could not take up the question of improving the present buildings comparatively at a less cost and thus save a lot of money?"

The Hon. Mr. G. T. H. Bracken :—"Yes, Sir, that question has been considered, but we need two chambers, one for the Upper House and one for the Lower House and naturally this expenditure is necessary. Further, a good deal of the fittings will all be useful for the new building. So, the net expenditure will be considerably less than Rs. 1,26,000."

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Diwan Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar:—" May I know, Sir, whether, when the building is handed over to the Senate, it will be restored to its original condition or whether it is to be handed over with the alterations and other fixtures? "

The Hon. Mr. G. T. H. Bracken:—" The Senate is willing to take over some of the alterations; otherwise the building will be handed over to them as it is now."

Mr. V. T. Arasu:—" May I know, Sir, for how many years the Senate House has been leased? "

The Hon. Mr. G. T. H. Bracken:—" No definite term has yet been specified."

Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder:—" May I ask the Hon. Member what the amount is that the Government will be able to realize from the expenditure which they are incurring for effecting improvements for temporary accommodation? "

The Hon. Mr. G. T. H. Bracken:—" It is difficult to give a definite estimate. The matter will be discussed on the supplementary Demand."

Mr. M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar:—" The other day the Hon. Member stated that it would cost half a lakh of rupees to improve the present chamber. If that is so, why not they adopt that procedure and have the Senate House for the Upper Chamber? "

The Hon. Mr. G. T. H. Bracken:—" Even to-day if the Senate House is to be adapted for the Upper House, it will cost a good deal of money."

Conference with the Syndicate of the Madras University regarding the renting of the Senate House to accommodate the new Provincial Legislative Assembly.

* 972 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder: Will the Hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that a joint discussion was held with the Syndicate of the Madras University with regard to the occupation of the Senate House by the new Provincial Assembly; and

(*b*) if so, what the terms of the discussion are and what decisions have been reached on them?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) A discussion was held with the Vice-Chancellor and two other members of the Syndicate of the Madras University.

For fuller information, see answer to question No. 971.

Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder:—" May I ask the Hon. Member to state whether any agreement has been made with the University authorities that they should pay back any amount that the Government may

invest on the structures, etc., that will be made over to the said authorities when the Senate House will be vacated?"

The Hon. Mr. G. T. H. Bracken:—"The Senate authorities agree to take over some of the alterations at a valuation."

Irrigation

Reasons for dropping the Theegaleru Project.

* 973 *Q*.—S. M. K. Beyabani Sahib Bahadur: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Government had once contemplated to construct the Theegaleru Project and that material also was collected some time ago for the same;

(*b*) why the project was given up;

(*c*) whether the Government are aware that the District Board, Kurnool, has sanctioned to construct a bridge by spending nearly a lakh of rupees over this river about two furlongs below the proposed project;

(*d*) what the actual amount is which the Government are giving to this district board for the bridge;

(*e*) whether it is a fact that the Theegaleru Project was estimated to cost less than two lakhs of rupees and that if it was undertaken there would be no necessity to construct a bridge; and

(*f*) whether the Government have investigated this aspect of the question any time before; if so, what their views are regarding the taking up of the project and abandoning of the bridge?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The Theegaleru Project is also known as the Thokapalli Project. The attention of the hon. Member is invited to G.O. No. 2040 I., dated 14th July 1930, in which the project was finally abandoned as its prospects were in every way extremely precarious. A copy * of the order which was placed at the disposal of the press is annexed.

(*c*) The Government are aware that the Kurnool District Board has taken up the construction of a bridge across the Theegaleru at mile 11/3 of the Markapur-Yerragundapalem road at an estimated cost of Rs. 72,500.

(*d*) Rupees 36,250.

(*e*) (i) No; it was estimated to cost over 21 lakhs.

(ii) As it was not undertaken, the question does not arise.

(*f*) Does not arise.

* Printed as Appendix II on page 471 infra.

Depressed Classes

Alleged unhealthy locality of the Paddison Hostel at Royapetta.

* 974 *Q.*—Mr. M. DEVADASAN: Will the Hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Paddison Hostel is located in a rented building;

(*b*) if so, what is the rent per year;

(*c*) whether it is a fact that the present quarters of the hostel are considered to be injurious to the health of the inmates; and

(*d*) whether any proposal was made by the Government to get a site and put up a building for the hostel?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Rupees 2,880.

(*c*) No.

(*d*) There was a proposal to construct a Government building for the hostel on the Spur Tank but it had to be deferred on account of financial stringency.

Mr. G. R. PREMAYYA :—" I want to know whether the quarters of the Paddison Hostel are injurious to the health of the inmates. Though it might not have been brought to the notice of the Hon. the Home Member, will he make an enquiry now at least in regard to the matter? "

The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM :—" An enquiry has been held and it has been found to be perfectly healthy."

Rao Sahib V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI :—" Is the Hon. the Home Member aware of the fact that year before last some two students of the Paddison Hostel were suffering from tuberculosis? "

The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM :—" One was a case of advanced tuberculosis and the boy was transferred to the Tuberculosis hospital, while the other was only an incipient case and the boy was kept under treatment. But the best medical authority who investigated the cases found that it was not due to the place and that the incidence of tuberculosis in the hostel was by no means serious."

Mr. G. R. PREMAYYA :—" It was reported by the Advisory Committee of the Paddison Hostel that the quarters there were not quite healthy. I would therefore request the Hon. Member to make an enquiry instead of saying that it is quite healthy."

The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM :—" It was absolutely on enquiry held that the quarter was found to be quite healthy."

Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR :—" May I know, Sir, whether it is contemplated to construct a building in the near future? "

The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM:—" When funds permit it will be considered."

Rao Sahib V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—" May I know, Sir, why Government have not thought of a different place to accommodate this hostel? "

The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM:—" That is just the question I answered last, namely, when funds are available, it will be considered."

Prisons and Prisoners

Health condition of Mr. Joseph, Madras Conspiracy case prisoner.

* 975 Mr. N. HALASYAM AYYAR: Will the Hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether Mr. Joseph, one of the Madras Conspiracy case prisoners, is now lying seriously ill in the Bellary Wellesley Sanatorium;

(*b*) whether he has been suffering from consumption for some time past;

(*c*) whether both his lungs and intestines are affected and whether he is spitting blood whenever he coughs;

(*d*) whether his condition is growing from bad to worse; and

(*e*) whether the Government will be pleased to consider the advisability of his release, having regard to the gravity of the disease and the seriousness of the condition of the patient?

A.—(*a*) He is in the Wellesley Sanatorium Jail. His illness is not serious.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) Yes. He is not spitting blood now.

(*d*) His condition is steady except for a small loss of weight.

(*e*) The condition of the convict is being carefully watched and periodical reports about his health are received by Government. The question of his release will be considered if the need arises.

Mr. N. HALASYAM AYYAR:—" Is it the view of the Government, Sir, that a consumptive patient spitting blood, and losing weight and with both his lungs and the intestines affected is not to be considered as suffering from serious illness? "

The Hon. Sir K. V. REDDI NAYUDU:—" He is not spitting blood now, nor is he heavily losing in weight and as has been pointed out in the answer, he lost only two pounds. The reports of the Superintendent and of the Inspector-General of Prisons clearly state that there is no danger."

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan :—" In the answer it is stated that the question of his release will be considered if the need arises. May I know exactly what the Hon. Member means by the word ' need '? "

The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu :—" Need for release means need for release. I only meant to say that the doctors will have to advise that it is a case for release."

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan :—" May I know, Sir, what stage he should reach in his health to necessitate his release? "

The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu :—" That stage at which doctors advise Government. I cannot give medical opinion."

Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt :—" May I know, Sir, as to whether in addition to both his lungs and intestines being affected, he is having continuous fever and is unable to stir out? "

The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu :—" That is clearly a case of tuberculosis but there are various stages in tuberculosis. His temperature is not high; it is only rising to 99."

Mrs. A. Rukmani Lakshmipathi :—" Does not the Hon. Member think that the spitting of blood is pretty serious because it might lead to hæmorrhage? "

The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu :—" I have already answered that spitting of blood has ceased and that it is no longer there."

[*Note.*—**An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.**]

II.—BUDGET FOR 1936-37—VOTING OF DEMANDS FOR GRANTS.

DEMAND VII—IRRIGATION—CAUVERY-METTUR PROJECT—RESERVED—*cont.*

Discussion on the above Demand was resumed.

* Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder :—" Sir, yesterday I was speaking about the necessity for providing water from the Cauvery by means of pumping or some such device. I believe, Sir, the Government have explored some schemes of providing additional irrigation in Salem district from the waters of the Cauvery but taking into consideration the circumstances which were obtaining then, they were obliged to turn down each and every proposal. While speaking on the Irrigation demand yesterday, my hon. Friend, Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar, pointed out that Government will have to revise their policy in view of the conditions existing at the present moment, namel

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availability of loans at a cheaper rate of interest, cheap labour and other similar circumstances. If that is done, I think the Hon. the Revenue Member can again take up the questions and work them up so as to reach a satisfactory solution in respect of providing some facilities for some more Cauvery irrigation in Salem district. Especially in view of the fact that such an experienced gentleman like Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar, a former Member of the Madras Cabinet, has pointed out that Government will have to revise their policy, I hope they will do, and first extend that benefit to Salem district."

The Hon. Sir CHARLES SOUTER:—"I am sorry, Mr. President, I could not catch the hon. Member's point. Does he refer to the Water-supply Scheme?"

* Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—"No, Sir, I refer to irrigation schemes, pumping and otherwise. In regard to the Salem district, it is true that the Government considered various proposals but taking into consideration the circumstances that prevailed at the time when the investigations were made, they came to the conclusion that the schemes which they took up for investigation were not feasible. But now conditions have changed and loans at cheaper rates of interest and cheap labour are available. So, I think if Government should take up the investigations of some schemes now for providing irrigation facilities in my district and pursue them with a strong will-power to help Salem district, I am certain they will arrive at a satisfactory solution. As I pointed out yesterday, Sir, if they have got a 'will' they will do it and I hope considering the advantages at present, they will think of exploring some scheme or other again for giving benefit to this district.

"Then, Sir, I shall pass on to the still more sad part of the story 11- about this project as regards my district. In spite of this district not a.m. getting any benefit from this reservoir unfortunately it has been visited with various disadvantages and inconvenience on account of this reservoir. In the first instance, I may say that many people were rendered homeless. Secondly the existing water-supply through the Cauvery channels in Namakkal taluk of this district has been affected. The Hon. the Revenue Member himself seems to have understood and promised when he was speaking on the previous demand that he will look into the matter and see that the stoppage of water is avoided and the complaint is remedied and I am indeed thankful to him for that. There is yet another disadvantage with regard to the korambu structure on account of the coming into existence of this reservoir project. Formerly we were having steady flow in the Cauvery and not in any way meddled by being blocked and let out at intervals. Thus the flow was a little bit moderate and steady except during flood times. The fixtures of korambu were able to withstand since the flow was in a fairly uniform condition. But now we find, Sir, that the flow of the river is blocked sometimes at Mettur when there is no necessity for water in the Tanjore delta and let out in large quantities even when there is no demand there. When the water is blocked for some time at Mettur and thus

there is no water in the river, the bed of the korambus is exposed to sun and the sandy-bed is dried up and when fresh water comes the sand is easily washed away and thereby the pegs of the korambu structure are uprooted and much damage caused and water-supply is affected. This is another disadvantage we are confronted with now. Another important, grave and injurious thing is the enhancement of the water-rate in this area by means of a G.O. No. 736, Revenue, dated 12th April 1934, under the name of Mettur Project with which the Salem district has nothing to do so far, except having it in her area. By this Government Order the Government have increased the water-rate in the Cauvery irrigated area by about four times of what it was previously. They explain, Sir, that this abnormal and unheard-of increase is on account of the Mettur dam. Though there was not even the least benefit at all to the existing supply by this dam but considerable harm, yet they attempt to explain that we are getting a more steady supply now. I may tell them that ever since the channels were founded —I believe it is some hundreds of years ago—there was not dearth of water on account of the River Cauvery drying at that spot of the korambu. It may be that they were not getting supply in the river at Tanjore. Up to this point where we have got our korambu and further down too there was enough water in the river and the Cauvery-Mettur Project has not at all contributed any advantage to this scheme. But on the other hand as I have already explained it is causing some worry and trouble very often. If at all the water failed in the channels in those days it was due to the giving way of the korambu structure and not due to want of water at that spot in the Cauvery. So the Government cannot claim that they have added to the irrigational facilities in that area by the Cauvery-Mettur Project. I may also be permitted to point out, that even at the time when the construction of this mighty project was considered they did not take this increase into account. They were all along calculating revenues from the Tanjore area and they were happily thinking that they will get their full amount from that area of Tanjore to which they solely intended to utilize the Mettur water. Having not realized their expectations they have now laid their hands on this district, viz., Salem, on the pretence of helping this district with Cauvery-Mettur Project. I ask the Government to state whether they ever thought of increasing the rate here when they inaugurated the Cauvery-Mettur Project. Certainly they had not the least idea in regard to this matter. On account of the fix they were put in and on account of not realizing their expectations in Tanjore, they have decided to do this grave injustice to the people of my district. There is another grave injustice that has been done in the name of the Cauvery-Mettur Project in my district and that is an attempt for levying water-rate even on paimash wet lands and garden lands in the proprietary estates and inam estates in this part of the country. Formerly I think these proprietary estates and inam estates have been allowed to be enjoyed by the grantees on some specific conditions and adopting some permanent settlement for these estates agreeably on the understanding that they will have this right of water from the Cauvery

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channels. It is only on that calculation, Sir, the fixing of the peshkash or quit-rent could have been made and those estates could have been allowed to be enjoyed by them. But now that the Government should come to levy water-rate on paimash wet lands seems on the very face of it to be rather unjustifiable. Strictly speaking, Cauvery being a non-navigable river, the proprietary estates and the inam estates adjoining the river have got a right over the river and as such the Government cannot think that they have got the entire right and that they can do anything they like. I have my own doubts, Sir, that if this point is contested in a court of law whether Government can have at least the existing rights, and I fear they will have to pay heavy damages for their past attitude. When the circumstances are such, it is regrettable to note the attempts of Government to introduce new system now. I know the Government are trying to levy these rates in those areas ever since the year 1910 or so and they have already experienced some civil litigation in that respect. In some litigation on this question with Kunnathur agraharam, I believe, the agraharamdars were successful and the Government were put to the necessity of withdrawing the levy which they once tried to impose. Another attempt to levy this rate on Bommalapalaiyam agraharam was also withdrawn due to the sagacity and prudence of the Board of Revenue and the authorities of those days taking a correct view of things. Now again this proposal is promulgated and already registered notices and representations have been submitted to the Revenue Member and I believe he is examining them with care and scrutinizing them to see that the sad state of affairs which came to pass previously is averted. I hope he will go into the question deeply and see that the injustice that is proposed to be meted out is stopped. I hear, Sir, that even before getting definite orders of Government in this respect the authorities in the taluk are trying to see that the rates are worked out and if possible collections are even made and it is a great pity indeed. I should ask the Hon. the Revenue Member to see that such state of affairs does not exist and the proprietors of these villages are not put to the necessity of spending anything in law courts. Government may as well prudently save them from these circumstances and allow them rest and peace of mind. Then I desire to pass on to certain other matters and that is with regard to the unoccupied buildings at Mettur. The rent that they charge for these buildings is rather exorbitant and does not encourage private people taking them up for occupation. If they do not let them out to people for occupation at cheap rates of rent, the Government have to go on incurring additional expenditure for watching those buildings. There is another aspect of the matter and that is if the buildings are not occupied it is certain that these buildings will become rotten sooner than if it is under occupation. If the Government were to refuse to accept even these cheap offers they shall not be gaining anything. They are simply keeping the buildings under lock and key and also incurring additional expenditure for watching. So I would urge that they should revise their present policy in this respect. With regard to the steam launch used at Mettur I would request the Government to see whether

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it is not possible to have a smaller one. The present one I am told is a little bigger and also consumes a good deal of petrol for running it. If they use a smaller one, I think it will suffice for the purpose. They should also inaugurate a policy that it should be made available for the use of the public for pleasure trips as it would add to the revenues of the Government and the public also will have some enjoyment. I also learn, Sir, that the steam launch is now under the control of the Executive Engineer at Salem and if one wishes to use it it is not quite convenient to get authority or permission for it at Mettur itself. I suggest that it may be entrusted to the local officer in charge of the dam so that it may be readily available for people who want the use of it at all times. I also like to refer to another question which may seem to be out of the purview of the Hon. the Revenue Member and that is with regard to the question of drinking water-supply from this reservoir to Salem town. I propose to discuss this matter of drinking water-supply in its entirety under the demand for Public Health but now I may confine myself in asking the Hon. the Revenue Member whether they cannot revise the policy with regard to charging of water that is supplied from the reservoir for drinking purposes. Here, Sir, I may point out to the Government even if the reservoir had not come into existence it would have been possible to take up water for drinking from the river by having some small contrivance for the purpose. If at all the dam contributed anything to this scheme, it will be the convenience of electricity that is proposed to be generated there and utilized for this scheme. Excepting this indirect help, I may say, Sir, that dam does not add anything to this scheme of drinking water-supply. So, it is futile to argue that the cost involved in constructing the dam should have some bearing on this water-supply question also. Hence I urge upon the Government to see that they look into this question with care and sympathy and allow the water that is to be taken for drinking purposes free of charge or if that is not practicable to give it at least at a nominal cost. With these words I once again request the Hon. Member to go into the questions which I have raised in the course of my speech and come to a satisfactory solution on each of them."

* Diwan Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGAM CHETTIYAR:—" Mr. President, Sir, now that the Cauvery-Mettur Project has practically been completed, I think it is necessary that the Government should consider what exactly is the present position. One thing which has been troubling the minds of the people is that somehow from the time the dam has been completed the reservoir itself has never been full. (The Hon. Sir Charles Souter: ' Question.') Somehow, Sir, for the last two or three years we have had no floods in the river Cauvery, and some anxiety is felt whether the arrangements that have been made with the Mysore Government have affected in any way the supply of water in the river. That is a question which will have to be seriously considered. Sir, from time to time notices appear in the papers that the supply in the reservoir is coming down to a dangerously low level. So, it is

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necessary that the Government should consider this aspect of the matter. I am only speaking as a layman, but still I am voicing the anxiety the people feel in the matter.

" Secondly, Sir, the question of the return for the money invested in the scheme is a matter about which again there seems to be some anxiety. Originally, the Government expected very high rates of water-tax. I believe, Sir, they have found that it is not possible to charge the high rates. Now, I fear they are having recourse to questionable methods of finding the return in other ways to which people naturally take objection. For instance, in this Council we have heard several times about the question of reclassification of lands. Reclassification is had recourse to as a consequence of this project. The ryots in the Tanjore delta say that on account of this dam they have not received any return which necessitates this reclassification and raising the rate of water-tax in that district. That is a question which will have to be considered. Also the Tanjore mirasidars have been telling us in season and out of season that in various ways the Government is trying to make up for the loss in its estimated returns by forcing the people who were already getting water sufficiently before, to pay more. That is a matter which the Government will have to think over. It will not be fair, if they failed in their original estimates, to force any portion of the deficit on these mirasidars without sufficient reason.

" Then, Sir, as regards the question of winding up this work at the dam itself, it was said that the machinery that has been purchased will be utilized for a big scheme like the Tungabhadra Project or the Lower Bhavani Project. So far as the Tungabhadra Project is concerned, it is held up for want of agreement between this Government and the other Governments. But with reference to the Lower Bhavani Project, this Council itself gave its consent to the starting of the scheme and a Bill in that connexion was passed in this House. I believe, Sir, Sir Archibald Campbell told us here once that it was in the stage of being referred for sanction to the Secretary of State. But somehow difficulties seem to have arisen afterwards, and I do not know where we stand with reference to that scheme. Unless the scheme is going to be sanctioned at once, there is little chance of any machinery belonging to the Mettur Project being made available for the new scheme. Also the Lower Bhavani Project has been waiting for an unconscionably long time even after the preliminary enquiries have been made and the sanction obtained. I should like to know from the Hon. the Revenue Member whether and when final orders will be passed by the Government sanctioning the scheme and when the scheme will be taken up for execution.

" Then there is the question of the disposal of the buildings available at the Mettur dam. For instance, Sir, we were told some time back that they have advertised for the sale of these buildings and that there were not many applicants. After seeing the buildings as to how they were distributed, several times on my way, it seems to me that it will be an ideal place for locating some of the institutions which will be useful for more than one district. For instance, I will mention that

the Central Recruit School for policemen which is now stationed in Coimbatore for the Tamil districts can easily be shifted to Mettur. That is an institution which does not require to be located in a big place like Coimbatore. There will be many advantages in taking a school like that to Mettur. We have got sufficient accommodation for quarters for the officers employed in the school as well as for the recruits. For the people to be trained also, Mettur will probably be much better than a place like Coimbatore. So, it seems to me that the Government should consider the location of the Central Recruits School for policemen, which is now located at Coimbatore, in Mettur itself. By that means, you will also be releasing the buildings occupied by the present school for the use of the several offices of the Government departments which are now paying rent. In that way there will be saving also. Probably some of the quarters in the Police school can be made available to officers in Coimbatore. In that way, it will help both the officers in Coimbatore as well as the disposal of the buildings in Mettur itself. Similarly, there are other institutions which do not require to be located in a central place like Coimbatore which is the headquarters of the district. For instance, if the training school for elementary schoolmasters which is located there at present is shifted to Mettur, it will be much better both for the Government and for the persons concerned, the students, the teachers and people like that. (*Interruption.*) It is suggested that the Legislative Council may go there. I think it will be a very nice idea. We will have a lot of fresh air and we will also have some boating in the reservoir, and some nice arrangements can be made for us in a place like that. So that, there is no objection to locate the training school for masters or the training school for policemen and institutions like that which have to serve more than one district, in a place like that. (*Interruption.*) Sir, I am asked 'what about mills.' I may suggest to the questioner that the mills are a private concern, and unless the managing director and the shareholders want it, it cannot be done. So far, no managing directors or shareholders have come forward to purchase these buildings, and that is a sufficient answer for him. Sir, the Government have been trying to bring in some industries or other, so that these buildings may be utilized. I inspected the buildings very carefully last time when I passed that side, because a proposal was made to me that a spinning mill could be located there, and I found that none of the buildings will be fit for the factory. It is well known that we are not providing quarters for the labourers and that is all that is available for factories now. So, the buildings are of no use whatsoever. It seems to me that it is only for public offices and public institutions like those I mentioned already, that the buildings can be utilized and some money recovered out of what has been spent on them. Sir, these are the points I wanted to mention in this connexion, and I hope the Government will try to take them into consideration."

MR. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—" Mr. President, Sir, there are only three points which I wish to refer to under this budget demand, and I would invite the attention of the Hon. the Revenue Member to

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motions Nos. 361, 362 and 363 on the agenda paper. The first relates to the rights of the Sathiathope anicut system to water under the Mettur Project through the Lower Coleroon anicut system. Sir, ever since the Mettur Project has come into existence, there has been a persistent complaint by the mirasidars under the Sathiathope anicut system that the water-supply has not been sufficient for irrigation purposes for the ayacut under that system. Sir, it seems to me that at the time when the ayacut for the Mettur Project was taken into consideration, and the extent of the ayacut was decided upon, the Government as though by oversight omitted to take into account the ayacut under the Sathiathope anicut system, which is about 30 to 50 thousand acres, and on that account this ayacut has been made to suffer for want of adequate supply of water. The Hon. the Revenue Member is aware that the Sathiathope anicut system is connected with the Mettur Project through the Lower Coleroon anicut system. As long as it is a connected system and water has been stopped from the Lower Coleroon anicut system to the Veeranam tank and from the Veeranam tank to the Sathiathope anicut system, it follows that the rights of the mirasidars under the Sathiathope anicut system cannot be taken away, and that these mirasidars have a right over the water that is conserved in Mettur reservoir. The difficulty felt by the mirasidars has been brought to the notice of the distinguished predecessor of the present Revenue Member, and he gave an undertaking that he would look into the matter. He wanted that time should be given in order to see how exactly the Mettur Project and the rules thereunder worked. Now, it is nearly three years and more since the Mettur reservoir has commenced to function. Notwithstanding the lapse of this period, the complaints of the mirasidars under the Sathiathope anicut system persist. I would therefore urge on the Hon. the Revenue Member to look into this matter and see what could be done in the direction of giving a steady supply to the ayacut under the Sathiathope anicut system. Sir, there have been certain proposals to increase the supply, and even those proposals have been abandoned by the Government pending the working out of the rules and the distribution of water under the Mettur reservoir. Even there I submit that three years' experience ought to be sufficient to the Revenue department and the Irrigation department to say whether any improvement can be made without affecting the distribution of water so long as the present system obtains. Now, Sir, there have been proposals to increase the full tank level of the Veeranam tank; and when pressure was brought to bear 11-4
upon Government to take up that scheme and improve the capacity of a.m
the tank, it was stated that those proposals must be deferred, pending the results of the distribution of water in the Mettur reservoir. I think the time has come for Government to take up the proposal for increasing the supply of water in the tank and there is no reason or necessity to defer it any longer.

"The other point which I want to bring home to Government is about distribution of water from the Lower Coleroon Anicut system. The distribution under the present rules is not very advantageous to

the holders of lands at the tail-end, particularly to the mirasidars under the Sathiathope system. These rules were framed after much discussion and after a conference held between the Hon. the Revenue Member, the Member of the Board of Revenue in charge of Irrigation and some of the officers of the Engineering department. But even after these rules have been in force, the supply for the second crop in the Sathiathope Anicut system has not been adequate, with the result that time and again, year after year, mirasidars had to claim remissions and Government had to forego large sums by way of remissions. So Government will be well-advised if they would make the supply adequate and save the remissions now granted, and convert the amount into capital value which can be utilized for improvement in the irrigation system. As a result of certain persistent demands made by the mirasidars of the Lower Coleroon, as also of the Sathiathope system, the Chief Engineer for Irrigation has been good enough to make certain supplies for the mirasidars of these systems, but those supplies have been made only at the sweet will and pleasure of the Engineer. So I would urge that the water now flowing in the various channels from the Lower Coleroon system, ought to be increased; particularly, the water that is now sent through the Rajan vaikal into the Chidambaram taluk is very inadequate. No doubt the Engineer sends out intimations of scarcity as well as excess supply of water, but there is no fixity of supply to the landholders. It is therefore necessary that Government should see their way to fix the necessary quantity of water through the channels that are flowing into the Chidambaram taluk. Last year the Engineer was good enough to grant 300 cusecs. I think that is the estimate of water necessary for the rate-payers and the landholders under that system. And this fixed quantity of water may be always allowed so that there may be no failure of crops.

" One other point I want to refer to relates to the revenue forecasts which the Government were able to place before the Council some time ago. Subsequent to that, on account of the fall in prices, there were many apprehensions raised whether the forecasts would be realized. A special officer also was appointed. It will be very helpful to members of this Council if they would be able to take the House into confidence and tell how exactly the revenue forecasts have been realized to-day, whether the Mettur Project is definitely a productive system and what exactly the position is with regard to the returns from the Mettur Project. I would therefore urge that Government may be pleased to tell us, judging from the latest reports they have received from their special officers or revenue officers, what exactly the position now is with regard to the yield from the Mettur Project and whether it has approximated or even exceeded the forecasts that were originally made when the project was started."

* Khan Bahadur MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB Bahadur:—" I understand, Sir, the Government have begun to make some profit out of the Mettur Project or at any rate they will be soon making much profit. I want to know how they are going to utilize the amount. It was and

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is suggested that it should be utilized in reducing the water-rates. But what I would submit is since large sums of money were spent for the project from the general revenues, the profits must go to the general revenues and should not be utilized for reducing the water-rates.

"I hear, I do not know how far it is correct, that some slight damage is caused to the cement wall of the Mettur dam. If it is a fact it is a calamity. I hear also it is slightly sunk on account of its weight. (The Hon. the Revenue Member: 'No.') If it is not so, so much the better. Anyhow the matter requires careful scrutiny and the officers concerned should be in constant watch.

"Another thing I want to bring to the notice of the Government is that the electricity generated there, may be supplied to the West Coast, because West Coast is nearer to Mettur than the East Coast. If from Pykara, electricity cannot be supplied to the West Coast it can be supplied from Mettur Project; it would be more advantageous also.

"As regards the leasing out of the right of fishing in the reservoir, I want to know what amount has been realized from it. When the suggestion was made last year the Hon. the Revenue Member said that the Director of Agriculture has already taken up the question.

"Another point about which I am much concerned is while several crores have been sunk in different parts of the Presidency in respect of irrigation the case of South Kanara has not been considered at all. It may be said that there is plenty of rains there. But, for the second crop there is no source except the tanks sunk here and there by the people."

The Hon. Sir CHARLES SOUTER:—"I should like to know how water from the Mettur reservoir can be taken to South Kanara?"

Khan Bahadur MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB Bahadur:—"The question of starting some irrigation works in South Kanara also may be taken into consideration. With these words I support the motion."

* Rao Bahadur Subadar-Major S. A. NANJAPPA Bahadur:—"Mr. President, Sir, the question of drinking water-supply to Salem from Mettur, if I remember right, was brought to the notice of Government in the year 1927. The tank in the town is nearly dry and there is no drinking water-supply. The Government say they have sanctioned something, that the estimates are under preparation and something of that kind; but nothing has been done so far. It is the duty of the Government, Sir, I believe, to see that the plans and other things are ready in time, so that the people of the town may not suffer. It is a known fact that Salem town is thickly populated and if there is no proper water-supply, cholera and other epidemics might find their home there. I think Government will come forward with a supplementary demand so that water may be supplied from Mettur dam to this town and the people relieved of their sufferings."

Mr. T. S. Ramaswami Ayyar:—" Sir, I intervene in this debate mainly to point out to Government that they are not justified in revising the rates in the Cauvery-Mettur area. Recently Government, on the plea that they have spent large sums of money on this project, have revised the rates in the area. When it is pointed out that Government cannot, during a settlement, revise the rates, their answer is that power has been reserved in the orders that were issued during the last settlement, and further that the Standing Orders contemplate a revision when there is improvement in the water-supply. My point, Sir, is that when Government have laid down a principle that during a settlement, which lasts for thirty years, the rate would not be changed, it is not correct that they should interfere in the middle of it and ask for a revision. Of course, we have protested from the point of view of the ryot that this itself is bad, because it works disadvantageously to the ryot. But the Government now, I find, want to take advantage of the rules and say that during the course of a settlement itself they can revise the rates. One reason put forward is that they have spent large sums of money on the Cauvery-Mettur scheme and it was intended to bring in a certain income which would justify the scheme being called productive. But there, Sir, the accounts that have been put forward by Government are not correct. It has been the contention of Government that the amount of Rs. 42 lakhs or so they have been getting from the area is not enough to meet the charges incurred. That is not correct.

12 noon. " The Government's contention is that the 42 lakhs that they get from the project cannot be taken into account, because the capital account is about 6½ crores and some of the income has to be credited to the expenditure on the capital account of Cauvery-Mettur Project prior to the taking up of the new project. The Government say that ever since the days of the Hindu kings there has been a project there and that they have been spending moneys on it and that therefore a portion of the moneys now got from the ayacut should be credited to that account. This has been a matter of controversy and it was pointed out that the Government's estimation of the original capital is not correct. I think a committee also went into this question. It was contended that the utmost that the Government could claim as capital account for this project prior to the execution of the new project could not exceed a crore of rupees. It was estimated by some at about 60 lakhs and by others at about a crore. In any case, if you say that the capital account of the Cauvery-Mettur Project prior to the execution of this new project is a crore, and if you add to it the sum of 6½ crores spent on the new project, the total will not come to more than 7½ crores. Now, if you calculate interest charges on this sum, my contention is that the sum of about 42 lakhs that the Government are now getting from the project is by itself enough to meet the former. If this is so, where is the case for increasing the rate? It is because the Government have overestimated the capital account of the scheme prior to the execution of this new project that all this trouble has arisen. As I stated, I understand that a committee went into this

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question and the matter was also referred to the Board of Revenue for remarks. Sir, if my contention is correct that the original capital account could only be a crore and that the later expenditure is only 6¼ crores, the Government have no case really for increasing the rate now.

"The second point that I want to raise is this: The Government have increased the overhead charges or rather, have not taken the necessary steps to decrease the overhead charges. For example, there is the case of the interest charge paid by the Government on the Cauvery-Mettur loans. More than one hon. Member of this House pointed out to the Government that this Government should take advantage of the new conversion loans that have been started by the Government of India. I see, Sir, the Government have taken some action, but not adequate action. I think the Madras Government is to blame for not taking early steps in this matter. I find from the budget memorandum that has been circulated that with regard to the Cauvery-Mettur Project there have been a number of loans taken aggregating to 612 lakhs. Of these, some loans have been bearing interest as much as 5·50 per cent. I think this is not a matter which should be allowed to rest there. For example the loan taken in 1925–26 amounting to Rs. 4·71 lakhs bears interest at 5½ per cent; the loan of 1926–27 of Rs. 100 lakhs bears 5 per cent interest; and it is only when you come to the year 1927–28 you find a decrease in the rate of interest from 5 per cent to 3·75 per cent for the loan of Rs. 87,39,000 taken in that year. The interest rate on the 1928–29 loan amounting to Rs. 77·85 lakhs is however 4·25 per cent. These loans are all bearing high rates of interest. I feel that the Government should urge upon the Government of India the need for that Government allowing us to convert these loans for the Cauvery-Mettur Project as well as other loans. If these interest charges are reduced, I am quite sure that there will not be any case for the Government to ask for a higher rate from the ryots in the Cauvery-Mettur area. If our Government urged upon the Government of India to do its duty by our Government, I am hopeful that success would be ours. If, however, the Government of India are adamant and are not willing to help this Government, then I think it is open to this Government to rebel and to say that they would go into the open market for their loans. It is not necessary that we should always look to the Government of India for favours, because the Hon. the Finance Member will admit that the credit of this Government is as high as the credit of any provincial Government can be, if not higher. That being the case, what prevents this Government going into the open market and raising loans? It is just possible that we may get loans at as cheap a rate of interest as 3 per cent, if not less. Why, when we can get loans at that rate, should we continue to pay as much as 5·50 per cent and ask the landholders of the ayacut to pay higher rates so as to meet the interest charges from revenue?

"Another point I want to mention is this: when the Mettur Hydro-Electric scheme was started, it was suggested that credit should be taken

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for irrigation of the Mettur area for the amounts that could be said to have been invested on the hydro-electric scheme. It is a moot point. I think it was the Accountant-General who pointed it out. That could be done; but the Government of Madras, after some consideration, turned down that proposal and said that credit need not be given, but that when profits accrue, a certain rate would be credited to the irrigation project as profit of the scheme. I think that is not correct. If the hydro-electric scheme is to be called a commercial project, it should be considered as a project which pays its way and also gives a profit to the Government. The hydro-electric scheme at Mettur cannot be worked unless there is such a big dam and water is held up and allowed to flow into the turbines. I therefore think that a large amount should be credited to the capital account of the irrigation scheme and then only the accounting can be called correct. You should apportion the capital invested on the Mettur Project between it and the hydro-electric scheme and then see if the hydro-electric scheme is a commercial proposition or not. Failure to do that falls heavily on the capital account of the Cauvery-Mettur Project. That is why I think the Cauvery-Mettur scheme is not on paper as remunerative as it really is. I think the Government have made out a bad case for increasing the rates. It is not fair. If they want to ask the tax-payer to pay because the scheme has been carried out for his benefit, I think the correct system of accounting should be adopted.

" Sir, I am not one of those who say that the Cauvery-Mettur scheme has not given relief to the ryot. It is not correct to say that I think the scheme has given very great relief to the ayacutdars. During the last year and the year before though there were some defects in the system, it has really worked to the advantage of the ryots. But at the same time the ryots can pay only as much as they should strictly pay. You cannot say that the scheme should bring in more income than it possibly can. I therefore feel strongly that this matter should be reconsidered by the Government and they should not ask that the ryots should pay more than what they have been paying before the settlement."

* Mr. V. T. Arasu:—" Mr. President, I have only one or two observations to make. I echo the views expressed by my hon. Friends, Messrs. Nachiyappa Gounder and Ramalingam Chettiyar, that certain items of potential revenue in connexion with this scheme have not been properly explored. I submit that the schemes mentioned by the hon. Members of the House and certain other schemes which I shall presently mention to this House, if undertaken by Government, will bring in considerable revenues to the State and to that extent the burden on the Tanjore ryots can be lightened.

" Firstly I would like to suggest that the Mettur lake the water surface of which is about 50 square miles may be leased out for fisheries on long terms. This is bound to bring in a decent income. Even the Accountant-General in the course of his remarks on the Appropriation Accounts of this Presidency for 1933–34 has asked why Government

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have not yet leased out the lake for fisheries. I would add that not only the lake but also the canals under the system could be leased out for fishing. If this is done, I am sure, a decent annual income can be assured. Then I would suggest that along the whole length of the canals under the system fruit-bearing trees can be planted on the bunds. They will not only yield a revenue, but they will also act as a check against erosion in times of heavy floods and rain. I believe I am right in saying that if fruit-bearing trees are planted on the canal bunds, according to the estimate of a very distinguished officer of Government in the Engineering department, now retired, the Government can very easily derive at the end of about 10 years an income of anything between Rs. 50,000 and Rs. 1,00,000 per annum.

" Sir, in connexion with the Mettur Project scheme I should like to elicit some information from the Hon. Member. According to the original scheme, the Cauvery-Mettur Project was expected to irrigate an area of about 300,000 acres in the Tanjore district. I should like to have information as to how many acres are now actually under cultivation. I know, Sir, about five or six years ago, the Government appointed a special officer for the main purpose of carrying on propaganda among the ryots and inducing them to take water from the scheme. I do not know what that special officer has done all these five years and whether he has succeeded to any extent in inducing the ryots to take water from the scheme. According to my information, speaking subject to correction, the total area of dry manavari land which has come under this scheme is less than 50,000 acres. Sir, 50,000 acres is but a drop in the ocean compared to the estimated three lakhs of acres. I would request the Hon. the Revenue Member to explain why it is that this scheme has not come up to expectations in this respect.

" Lastly, I should like to know what has happened to the memorial 12-
sent by some public spirited young men to the Government asking for p.1
the assignment of a plot of land for the purpose of colonization on modern lines. I understand that definite proposals were made, and a petition was also sent to the Government by Mr. A. S. Venkatarama Ayyar, a very enthusiastic and exhuberent public worker who has devoted himself to the cause of the unemployed educated young men in the Tanjore district. It would appear that this gentleman has been requesting Government to assign a plot of about 1,000 or 2,000 acres in the Mannargudi taluk which is now lying waste, so that it may be developed into a model agricultural colony by the educated unemployed. It is needless to say that such a scheme would provide not only employment for the youths of the Tanjore district, but it would also be a source of revenue to Government. I suggest that the Hon. the Revenue Member should give serious consideration to the requests and schemes of Mr. A. S. Venkatarama Ayyar and see if he cannot solve at least to some extent the problem of unemployment among the educated youths, though not of the whole Presidency, at least of Tanjore district.

"In conclusion, I want to make an earnest appeal to the Hon. the Revenue Member to secure the services of non-officials to induce the Tanjore ryots to avail themselves of the opportunity that the Cauvery-Mettur scheme is giving them, and thereby bringing more land under cultivation under this scheme."

* Mr. K. S. Sivasubrahmanya Ayyar:—" Sir, I support the motion before the House and I endorse the views expressed by my hon. Friend, Mr. V. T. Arasu. The constructive suggestions put forward by my hon. Friend are that the Government must lease out for fisheries the Mettur lake and canals and plant fruit-bearing trees on either sides of the canals of the Mettur project and that if these are done they would easily bring in greater revenue to the coffers of the Government which may be used for reducing the water-rate for the area. How this Mettur scheme is an unmixed blessing to the Tanjore ryots is really a problem to many of us. There seems to be an opinion in the minds of some hon. Members that on account of the fact that a large sum of money has been spent for the construction of the dam at Mettur, Tanjore district has been specially favoured. Well, as has been observed by my hon. Friend, Mr. T. S. Ramaswami Ayyar, no doubt it has given us a regulated and steady water-supply, but on the other hand it has ensured equally a regular and steady source of revenue to the Government both from the old delta and from the new ayacut to be brought under cultivation newly. But, Sir, it has added to the difficulties of our drainage problem very much. Already the delta is very much defective in drainage and the advent of the project had added to the difficulties of our drainage problem more than before and unless the area affected by Vadavar in Mannargudi taluk is improved and Pamaniyar and Koraiyar are taken directly to the sea, and a parallel river to Pamaniyar is dug to bring the new ayacut water, it is going to be a great calamity to the people of these parts year after year. They are suffering very much and their lands practically yield nothing on account of the submersion caused by the water let in by the new canals of Mettur Project. Besides, the whole Tanjore delta has been deprived of the rich alluvial silt that they were getting before, and the project has brought them additional taxation. These are the only benefits that we, in Tanjore, are enjoying out of this project. Without having the necessity of going through all the paraphernalia attached to a resettlement, namely, of crop test, fixing of commutation rate, allowance for cultivation expenses, middleman's profit, etc., Government on account of the completion of the Mettur Project has raised the classification of sources and thereby our taxes. Besides by means of nine Government Orders the taxation has been enormously increased and even the small remission that has been granted to the ryots has not borne any fruit in the case of Tanjore district. While the raising of the tax by the G.O. No. 1238 alone has gone up to about 20 per cent the reduction in tax on account of remission is only 11 per cent. G.O. No. 1238 which raises the classification has been applied uniformly irrespective of the fact whether the land has derived benefit or not.

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"Sir, the attention of the Government has been drawn on the floor of this House many a time to the fact that the new deltaic area has not been provided with any drainage facilities, but nothing has been done to improve them. As has been pointed out already, the system of accounting followed at present in the irrigation department of the Government is mainly responsible for the Government raising the taxes by means of these Government Orders. If the whole ayacut area is taken into account as a whole, that is to say, if the old as well as the new deltas are clubbed together and if the total amount spent on these irrigation projects is taken into consideration, even if the Government expect a return of 6 per cent, purely taking tbe project as a productive one, the whole question will become very simple and there will be no need to raise the taxes at all. Although actually the Government have spent a capital nearly of 77·5 lakhs for an area of nearly nine lakhs acres, the income derived from them is 52·4 lakhs. The working expenses come to 8·66 lakhs, the simple interest over the capital invested comes to 3·2 lakhs and the net return that is got out of this delta as a return is something like 42 lakhs. And for the Cauvery-Mettur Project for the capital amount of 732 lakhs spent, a return of about 35 lakhs is expected. I venture to submit that without difficulty we are getting an income of 35 lakhs for what has been spent for the whole irrigated delta. If the whole delta is taken into consideration and the whole scheme is treated as one, even if the Government treat this scheme as a productive one, the ryots will not be put to much difficulty and the income derived from the revenue in the new delta will be a surplus addition which can be utilized for improving the irrigation and drainage facilities.

"So I would appeal to the Hon. the Revenue Member to extend the same concession as has been given for the last three years in the case of the new deltaic area and not to raise the water-rates above the present rates. If the rates are raised I am afraid the ryots will be put to much difficulty and they are not likely to take water and as a result thereof the interest charges on the capital spent will swell up and it may even go to 10 crores which means a heavy loss to the general revenues of this province. So in the interests of the general tax-payers of this province itself, I would ask the Hon. the Revenue Member to extend the same concession to the ryots in the new area so that they may be in a position to take water at the old rate and so that the general tax-payers may not be put to unnecessary loss.

"As has been pointed out by my hon. Friend, Mr. V. T. Arasu, a number of people have applied to the Government for assignment of lands in the new deltaic area for starting experimental model farms and they are all educated young men. There is a cry in the country namely, 'back to the land and villages' and if these educated people are encouraged, I am sure it will go a great way to relieve unemployment in general and induce them to take to agriculture. It will also give, as if it were, an impetus to agriculture itself inasmuch as improved systems and methods of agriculture will be adopted by these young educated men. I hope that the Hon. Minister for Agriculture

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who is not here at present in his seat, will also persuade the Hon. the Revenue Member and with his help and advice will achieve this noble purpose.

" Sir, as a result of the completion of the Mettur Project the old delta which has not derived any benefit practically has been put to heavy taxation and the two Government Orders that were passed some two years ago have only been kept postponed and almost we are now at the end of March and the new fasli is fast approaching. So it is better the intentions of the Government with regard to what they propose to do as to the water-rates to be levied in the old deltaic area are made known to the public early. If this is done, the public also will decide one way or the other, whether they are to cultivate plantains, garden crops, etc., in their lands or whether they are to discontinue and destroy what all they have now. If orders are passed at a later stage and if the ryot has prepared himself to cultivate his land with these crops, it would unnecessarily embarrass his position and cause him unnecessary loss. Therefore I would request the Hon. the Revenue Member to pass final orders in regard to that point, whether the same concessions are going to be given for the next fasli or whether they propose to insist upon the same old thing as prescribed in the Government Orders.

" Lastly, Sir, it is a misnomer to call samba cultivation after a short crop, as a second crop cultivation and kuruvai cultivation as a first crop cultivation. After the completion of the Mettur Project a uniform water-rate of Rs. 5 has been prescribed for second crop cultivation. More water is not utilized for the kuruvai crops and so far as my district is concerned, it must be said that the kuruvai crop which precedes the samba crop must be considered as the second crop. It stands only for 2½ months or about 85 days and takes a lesser quantity of water and after it is harvested, the samba crop cultivation begins and the crops do remain on the fields for more than five months. Though at present the samba crop is called the second crop and the kuruvai is called the first, I think these expressions must be deemed to be a misnomer.

·30 m. " Sir, to charge a higher rate for the second crop or a uniform rate of Rs. 5 for a second crop is most unjust and illegal. I would request the Hon. the Revenue Member to reconsider the matter and see that only half of the wet assessment is charged for the second crop as before. This practice has been in existence for a very long time, but owing to the completion of this Mettur scheme the rate has been raised to a uniform rate of Rs. 5 for a second crop. I would request the Hon. the Revenue Member to take into consideration the fact that the kuruvai crop does not require more water and that it does not stand on the field for a large number of days, though it precedes the samba which must be deemed to be the only crop raised and to reduce the water-rate to the level that was in vogue previously. With these few words I support the cut motion."

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Mr. A. Pl. N. V. Nadimuthu Pillai:—" Mr. President, Sir, in supporting the motion under discussion I wish to say a few words in connexion with the Mettur project. Time and again it has been brought to the notice of the Government on the floor of this House that *the Government ought not to look upon the project purely as a commercial concern, much less in these days of economic depression* when the tax-payer is at his wits' end to find the means of living after paying the land revenue. In spite of the Special Officer's efforts and the District Collector's propaganda the local officials have not been able to push on with the development of the project beyond 30,000 acres. This is mainly due to the ryots' fear that they will be asked to pay Rs. 15 per acre after the project water is introduced into the fields. The Government can afford to reduce the water-rate to the normal level of Rs. 6–4–0 per acre on account of the following favourable circumstances. The Government have already saved some interest charges on the one crore of rupees capital loan. They can do so for the remaining five crores of rupees by insisting on the Government of India to reduce the interest charges on the loan just as they saved Rs. 22 lakhs last year for the benefit of the Bombay Development loans. There is also a saving of one crore of rupees from the original estimate for the project. Even if the Lower Coleroon, the Cauvery-Mettur and the Cauvery system are combined into one project the Government are realizing now more than the 6 per cent net profit contemplated by them. In these days of depression the Government can also afford to reduce the net profits to 3 per cent instead of 6 per cent as the Special Officer says that the ryots do not get more than 1 per cent profit or even less in many cases. The price of paddy is not likely to go up for several years to come. The concessional water-rate creditably introduced by Government on the advice of the Revenue Board should be continued till the end of fasli 1350 for quickening the project development. Unless this assurance is given there is no chance of the project being developed to the fullest extent as desired by the Government in the Public Accounts Committee Report. There are two lakhs of acres of dry lands to be converted into dufassal crop cultivable areas.

" In the matter of the levy of water-cess in the new delta for the use of the Cauvery-Mettur Project water, the Government have not at all taken into consideration the enormous difficulties felt by the ryots who are new to survey maps and measurements. There is a universal complaint in my district that the village officers evade furnishing the ryots with correct extracts of all village accounts especially No. 6 accounts. The azmaish of fields by tahsildars and Revenue Inspectors is never carried out properly according to the actual state of things in the fields. The karnam who is all in all in the matter of compilation of No. 6 accounts manipulates them according to his likes and dislikes. Extracts of the provisional demand accounts furnished by the village officers to the Tahsildar should be furnished to the ryots immediately on demand and published in the village chavadis. Field inspections for purposes of remissions are not carried out urgently

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before the harvest in the presence of the ryots or their tenants and extracts of such accounts are not available to the ryots for their verification. There is also a loud complaint that remission petitions are not attended to promptly before the harvest season is over. I shall feel grateful to the Hon. the Revenue Member if peremptory instructions are issued for the guidance of the Collector on the aforesaid lines besides insisting on the Revenue Divisional Officers paying surprise visits to the villages and hearing the ryots' complaints on the field.

"Another very important matter needs special mention. The Record of Rights Registers prepared by the Record of Rights Officers are most perfunctory. The disposal of objections by them are not at all satisfactory. The Record of Rights preliminarily prepared by the Revenue Inspectors is practically confirmed. If the register is prepared solely with a view to collection of water-cess it should be notified that the entries recorded in such registers so hurriedly and perfunctorily prepared are not to be treated as evidence of the ownership of the lands at all.

"The register is also wrongly prepared in obedience to some proceedings of the Board of Revenue in respect of classification of land as wet, dry or manavari. When a register is newly prepared it should only be a correct statement of what the land is found to be now. But lands which have been from time immemorial irrigated and cultivated with wet crops have been classified as dry or manavari for the mere reason that in the paimash (prepared 110 years ago) they have been so recorded. Further wet lands according to the said paimash or block survey have now been registered as dry simply because they have been left fallow for a few years or because of the absence of a separate irrigation channel leading to them. Such anomalies work a great hardship. The registry so far made is only with a view to collecting as high a rate of water-cess as possible. This is not the proper way of preparing a Record of Rights Register. The existing condition of the land and the rights appurtenant thereto should be ascertained and made the sole criterion for the classification of the lands as wet, dry or manavari.

"In so far as special rate lands which are irrigated by private tanks are concerned, it is submitted that their classification as manavari or dry solely on the ground that previously they were paying a concessional rate for forming and maintaining their own tanks is inequitable. They may be classified as wet and the taram assessment charged allowing the same concession for maintaining their own tank. This matter has been brought to the notice of the Collector and the Commissioner of Land Revenue and Settlement by means of a deputation but nothing seems to have been done to rectify the defect so far.

"The importance of the railway line from Tanjore to Pattukkottai should not also be lost sight of. We have been urging that it should be laid soon but in vain. A calculation of the passenger traffic alone

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should not be the criterion for calculating the return. The enormous goods traffic that is likely to be diverted to the railway should also be considered. In the area where several lâkhs of rupees have been spent is it not the duty of the Government to take active steps for forming good communications of which a railway line is an important one? In reply to a reference from the Government, the Collector of Tanjore, I understand, has strongly recommended that the guarantee required by the railway company may be given considering the heavy traffic that may result in due course. The District Board of West Tanjore have also resolved that the required guarantee may be assured. It is high time that the Government without further delay gave the required guarantee and arranged for the early construction of the railway line.

" I request the Hon. the Revenue Member to kindly consider the various points that I have raised."

* The Hon. Sir CHARLES SOUTER:—" Mr. President, Sir, I think I might take the question of water-supply to Salem and dispose of that first before I go on to Tanjore and the general question of the Mettur Reservoir. The hon. Member, Mr. Nachiyappa Gounder, again adverted to his scheme of pumping water for the purpose of irrigation in Salem. I thought that yesterday I had already sufficiently referred to that matter, but apparently not. I pointed out yesterday that a pumping scheme could never be carried out because no ryot can afford to pay the water-rate which would be necessary in any scheme at any rate which has so far been investigated by the Public Works Department. In one scheme the water-rate was about Rs. 48–8–0 per acre and in the other one it was somewhere about Rs. 20 per acre for a very modified scheme. I really do not think that even at the present prices those water-rates could be very largely reduced, at any rate so as to bring the scheme within the range of practical politics. I very much doubt indeed whether this idea of pumping water from the reservoir for irrigation in Salem will ever come to anything."

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—" Not the reservoir but lower down."

* The Hon. Sir CHARLES SOUTER:—" Even from lower down the river. Probably it will make it more difficult.

" Then he went on to talk about the question of the stoppage of water. By that he meant that when Tanjore received a good supply of rain the Public Works Department automatically shut up the shutters at Mettur and did not let water down the Cauvery. And this was irrespective of the fact whether Salem itself had received rain or not. As I said yesterday I do think there is some cause for complaint here and I shall have the matter looked into.

" Then, Sir, came the question of the water-rates now charged under the Cauvery channels which take off from below the reservoir. These rates were increased to Rs. 10 from, I understand, Rs. 4 which

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they used to pay. But last year as my hon. Friend must know, the charge levied in Tanjore, both in the old and the new deltas was Rs. 5 per acre. This question will be taken up, separately and jointly with the points put forward by the deputation of Tanjore mirasidars which waited on *His Excellency last April. The deputation have raised the* question of water-rates generally and the reclassification of sources under the Mettur project. I understand that the report of the full Board of Revenue on this point has within the last week or so been received and is now being looked into. I have not seen the report myself, but I assure hon. Members that it will receive extremely careful examination. (An hon. Member: Sympathetic.) Well it depends upon the report of the Board of Revenue. If the Board of Revenue proposes something more I may be sympathetic; if on the other hand they propose too little I may be unsympathetic. I cannot tell you. I have not seen the report.

"Then came the question of what rates Government propose to charge next fasli for water. The report of the Board of Revenue ought to have been received by now on this point but has not been received. I have asked the Secretary to tell them to let me have the report without further delay.

"I think some hon. Member generally referred or alleged that the Cauvery-Mettur Project has not been of any use to anybody. I think however that other Members have adequately replied to that allegation. I do not think that that view can be reasonably held by anybody.

"Then there was the question of the charge for water for inam lands and proprietary lands in Salem. I think I have already informed the hon. Member that there is some legal difficulty about the point and that the question is now before the Advocate-General. All that the Government have done so far is to ask their officers, as a lawyer would say, by way of abundant caution, to charge the rates but not to collect them. Otherwise of course we should be barred by limitation in case we find our legal position is safe. We have done this only to guard ourselves against such a contingency but the rates are not being collected.

45 p.m. "I do not know when the Advocate-General is going to report on this rather difficult matter. I know, just a few days ago, he asked for some further information and I presume he is giving his close consideration to that point.

"Then, Sir, came the question of the buildings at Mettur. I thought that I had already answered that fairly sufficiently; one thing about the buildings is, we do not want to dispose of them at cut-throat prices; we have a good property there and I do not see why we should dispose of those buildings in a hurry, when there is every chance, I hope, of being able to get considerable sums out of them. Their upkeep is really not a very serious matter. I have not got figures

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for the upkeep of the Mettur buildings; I know the upkeep of the Salem camp only amounts to something like Rs. 1,100 or Rs. 1,200 a year; it is not very much.

"Then with regard to the motor launch, I think there is some justification for the view that the launch at present is not of much use to the public; but it is not intended for that purpose; certainly the cost of running it makes it too expensive to enjoy rides in it. I am going to Mettur in a couple of days; I hope to see what this launch is like and if I find that the cost of running it is too much, I think it would not be a bad thing if we got a cheap launch which might be hired by those who want very pleasant trips up the lake; by that means it will be able to pay its way. That matter I have noted down.

"Then as regards drinking water for Salem town, the Government have fixed a certain rate; I do not know how much it is; it is, I think, Rs. 3 for 1,000 cubic yards. This rate is merely tentative and depends on the amount of water-rate which is charged for actual irrigation. I will draw the attention of the Local Self-Government Department to what Mr. Nachiyappa has suggested.

"Then, Sir, Mr. Ramalingam Chettiyar complained that the Mettur Reservoir was not full. I myself do not think there has been full depth in the lake for the short time it has been in existence. But it must be remembered that for the last two years, the monsoon has been spasmodic. In the first year, the reservoir actually fell to 27 feet in depth although its full water level is 120 feet; that only shows how little water there was in the Cauvery; but even so, the amount available was sufficient to save the crops in Tanjore. This year, after the harvest is over, we still have 60 feet of water in the reservoir; it has been going up recently about half a foot a week, just after full supply to the areas irrigated under the reservoir and that is quite sufficient to tide over any defect in the monsoon, if it should unfortunately happen. Water has been this year up to 104 feet, that is to say, only 16 feet less than the full reservoir level; the second year of working I do not think was bad especially considering the fact that the monsoon even this year has been spasmodic and not good. At any rate we have ample water for our requirements; as I said we have half the reservoir as a stand-by.

"Then, Sir, I was asked what progress was made in actual cultivation under the Mettur Project. I may state generally that under the new delta, the dry or manavari lands have not come to our expectations by 16,000 acres. We calculated that up to the end of 1934–35, we should have 60,000 acres under cultivation, whereas we had only 44,600 acres. With regard to wet cultivation in proprietary villages, our calculations were 10,300 acres and curiously enough we had nearly three times as much, that is, 28,000 acres. The total revenue that we actually got under the new delta up to that year, was Rs. 3½ lakhs as against Rs. 3,79,000 which we estimated for; in other words up to then, we

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were only Rs. 30,000 below our estimate. That is under the new delta.

"Under the old delta, our estimate of revenue was Rs. 8,09,000; our actuals were Rs. 8,56,000; in other words we were above our forecast in the old delta by something like Rs. 47,000. The total for both the old and the new delta in actual revenue was this; our forecast was Rs. 12,35,000 and our actuals were Rs. 12,48,000; in other words our total revenue from cultivation has exceeded our forecast slightly by about Rs. 13,000. I think, on the whole, hon. Members will agree that this is not an unsatisfactory result.

"Then, Sir, some points were raised as regards the buildings at Mettur; I may say that specific proposals were put forward by Mr. Ramalingam Chettiyar and others; those points will be examined and referred to the proper authorities concerned.

"The next point, I think, of importance was regarding the Sethiatope anicut. All I can say is that it has been from the very beginning recognized to be a separate scheme; I think the Vanniar river should supply water to the Veeranam tank. The Veeranam tank is a very shallow tank; that holds only a fortnight's supply at a time; it was proposed some time ago to raise the depth of the tank by about one foot and it was found, because of the nature of the place there, that the amount of land that would be submerged on the foreshore was very great and the cost of the acquisition of the available land would be very much. Sir, orders have been issued that the Superintending Engineer has full discretion when he finds that the supply of water to the Sethiatope ayacut is sufficient, to let down water up to certain limits. I think 300 cusecs is the *maximum* in order to supply the deficiency. I think that it would be a good thing if that ayacut never suffers from shortage of water, because, after all, it is just as important to the Government they should not have to give any remission under that system as they should give no remissions under any other system and if we have the water, it will certainly be given.

"Then, Sir, Mr. Schamnad started a hare by saying that the Mettur Dam is sinking. It has not sunk. The earthquake tremors which we had recently did not affect the site of the dam; they had no effect whatever. The dam is just as sound as it was on the date when it was opened. As regards the profits, there I think Mr. Schamnad's general view is the right one that any profits we get from the Mettur Reservoir must go to the general revenues; what happens after they go to the general revenues is entirely a different matter.

"Then, I think the next point of importance that was urged was that the rate of interest which we give on our loans for the construction of big works is too much. In the matter of taking loans, there are two parties to it. Suppose my friend Mr. Ramalingam Chettiyar got a loan to build a mill at 7 per cent. Subsequently the rate fell to 3 per cent.

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If he went to the creditor and asked him to reduce his rate to 3 per cent, the creditor naturally would not be very polite. The same thing with the Government of India. After all, we borrowed from the Government of India when they had to pay a certain rate of interest in the open market; subsequently they were able to borrow at a lesser rate of interest; they have yet to pay 5 or 6 per cent rate of interest to people from whom they borrowed originally. They have paid some of their debts by conversion loans and these conversion rates they have passed on to us and intend to pass on the result of their conversion loans in the coming year. The Government of India always pass on to us the benefit of these conversion loans. I do not think we can expect reasonably any more from them.

"Then, Sir, the question was raised as to the inequity apparently of raising the classification during the currency of a settlement. There I think that hon. Members are entirely wrong, because the resettlement of Tanjore was carried out on the strict understanding that reclassification would take place if the Mettur Project was carried out. I may also refer hon. Members to the analogy, for instance, of the Madras Estates Land Act. Under that Act, the zamindar has not got the power to increase the rent for a period of twenty years. If, during that period, he carries out improvements at his own cost to irrigation works, he is entitled to increase the rent in consequence of that expenditure. After all, that is the exact position of the Government in the matter."

Mr. K. S. SIVASUBRAHMANYA AYYAR:—"The power has not been reserved." 1 p.m.

* The Hon. Sir CHARLES SOUTER:—"The power was reserved actually in the notification; if the hon. Member wishes, let him see it. That power was actually reserved.

"Then, Sir, the question of fishing was raised, and I find that the Finance Committee refused to sanction the scheme for the next year. It was thought that the fishermen apparently would find it extremely difficult to catch fish in such a very deep and vast expanse of water. But the matter has not been dropped yet, and I understand that the Fisheries department is devoting attention to this matter. As I said, the matter has not been passed by the Finance Committee for the coming year.

"As regards the disposal of the machinery, I think we have to some extent given up the idea of preserving the machinery, at any rate, a part of the rolling stock at Mettur for the present for two reasons mainly, one that the machinery is subject to deterioration, and secondly it is reported that we have received a very favourable offer indeed for the rolling stock, which makes it a matter for consideration whether this machinery cannot be profitably sold out. At the same time, the Bhavani project is not being put off; the revenue officer's report on his part of the investigation has been received and is now in the Board of Revenue under scrutiny. We still have one more experiment to make from the agricultural point of view, and that will be ready, I think, by

next October. And the only point that remains to be decided is about the foundation. And there I understand that an officer deputed by the Government of India is to have a final look at the place before the Public Works department can compile the necessary details about the foundations. Anyway, that should not take, I think, any very long time. I can assure the House that the matter has not been dropped, although it is a very complicated project indeed.

"Then, Sir, we were told that the Mettur Project has increased the drainage problem in the delta area. My idea was that it has diminished it; but if it has not diminshed it but increased it, I wish that the hon. Members who referred to it would let me have specific cases, so that investigations may be made. Only a general reference was made to the Paminiyar area, but the trouble in the Paminiyar area has been there for years and years and perhaps recently there has been increased trouble; but I am yet to hear that the Mettur Project has increased that trouble in any way. But, if there is any apprehension on that account, as I said, I hope hon. Members who stressed this point considerably would give specific cases, so that I can have them examined in detail.

(At this stage the Hon. the Deputy President occupied the Chair.)

"I think, Sir, my time is up. I only hope that hon. Members will not press this question to a division. The Mettur Project is after all a very good project, and in spite of all the criticisms—and I notice that I have received none from Trichinopoly—from Salem and Tanjore, I must say that it is a beneficial project and we hope to make it a great deal more beneficial."

* Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—"With regard to the exploration of new schemes and taking up the old ones for re-examination, I hope, Sir, the Government will keep in view the suggestions made by my Hon. Friend Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar on the previous demand and with a firm hope that the Hon. the Revenue Member, really sympathetic as he is, will take up the questions which I have raised seriously into consideration and find satisfactory solution for each, I do not mean to press my motion."

The cut motion [a] was by leave withdrawn.

The Demand was then put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND VIII—HEADS OF PROVINCES AND EXECUTIVE COUNCILS—RESERVED.

* The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM:—"Mr. Deputy President, Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I beg to move—

'*that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs.* 3,58,100 *under Demand VIII—Heads of Provinces and Executive Councils—Reserved*'."

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[a] To reduce the allotment of Rs. 1,28,700 under Demand VII—Irrigation—Cauvery-Mettur Project—Reserved by Rs. 100.

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* Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder:—" Sir, I move that—

'*the allotment of Rs. 8,100 for Heads of Provinces and Executive Councils—Military Secretary, Aides-de-Camp and Band Establishment—Pay of Officers, be reduced by Rs. 100.*'

In moving this cut motion, I want to make it clear that it is not my intention that the grant should be reduced, if it is to touch in the least His Excellency's convenience, but, I only wish to make a suggestion that the present practice may be continued if it is quite agreeable to His Excellency. Sir, in the year 1934–35, the expenditure incurred in this connexion was only Rs. 17,177 and although for the year 1935–36 an allotment of about Rs. 24,300 had been made in the original estimates, the amount required for expenditure and allowed in the revised estimates is only Rs. 16,700. From a perusal of the budget memorandum, I see that the reduction is due to the post of adjutant being held by an Aide-de-Camp in addition to his own duties. For the year 1936–37, however, I find that an allotment of Rs. 25,100 is asked. Of course, it may be that deputing one officer to do the duties of another post may cause some inconvenience to His Excellency's establishment; but taking into consideration the present circumstances and the necessity for retrenching expenditure, probably His Excellency himself has volunteered to make this arrangement. I believe, Sir, this arrangement has been working fairly well; and so, I desire to make a suggestion to continue the same and thus make some savings. As I noticed a higher allotment made under this head for the coming year, I was tempted to repeat this suggestion. Although the savings from this item may not be more than Rs. 7,000 or Rs. 8,000 yet it may meet some crying or urgent need if it can be done without any inconvenience whatsoever to His Excellency and so may I suggest, Sir, that the present practice may continue?"

* The Deputy President:—" As this is a motion raising a definite issue and is not intended to discuss the general policy, we will have to take a vote on this first, and then take up the other motions."

* The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. Pannirselvam:—" Mr. Deputy President, Sir, the idea is to continue the system of having one of the Aides-de-Camp to do the duties of the adjutant. But for this we have to take the sanction of the military authorities, for which we have applied already. Pending such sanction, this item has been included in the budget. When such sanction is received, the present system will be continued; and I may say that His Excellency himself desires that this system should continue."

* Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder:—" I am thankful for the information furnished by the Hon. Member and I beg leave to withdraw my cut motion."

The cut motion was by leave withdrawn.

* **Rao Bahadur** Subadar-Major S. A. NANJAPPA Bahadur:—" Mr. Deputy President, Sir, I move that—

> '*the allotment of Rs.* 8,100 *for Heads of Provinces and Executive Councils—Military Secretary—Aides-de-Camp and Band Establishment—Pay of Officers, be reduced by Rs.* 100.'

Many hon. Members of this House know the history of the Madras Regiments, ever since those regiments were formed. They were doing their duties very well and they have worked in various parts of the country. It should be understood that the Madras Regiments were raised when none of the other Indian Regiments were raised in India. They have served in the wars in Sholinghur, the Carnatic, Mysore, Seringapatam, Egypt, Hyderabad, Peru, Secunderabad, Central India, Burma, Afghanistan, Baluchistan and so many other places. I have also had the good fortune to work in the Suez Canal, Kut-El-Amara, East Africa, Baghdad, Persia and so many other places. But what is the fate of those regiments to-day? They have all been disbanded. There is no Madras regiment at all in existence to-day. The year before last I brought up a motion before the House that we should raise at least 12 Madrasi regiments in this province consisting of Madrasis. I do not think the Government have taken any steps to have the Madras Regiment revived. It should not be forgotten that during the Indian Mutiny, the Madras Regiment played an important part, and it is on account of that regiment that the British Flag is flying to-day throughout the whole of India. Still, their claims are overlooked, and the regiments have been totally abolished. Sir, when we are also paying for the cost of the military upkeep from this province, I do not see why we should not have our share in the military establishments. I have brought this subject before the House several times previously, but all that has been of no use. Now I see there is a Punjabi Aide-de-Camp to His Excellency the Governor to-day. I am ashamed of it, Sir; because when I first enlisted, i.e., in 1894, there were 32 Madrasi regiments, but now there is none, and we have to go to other provinces and borrow their men for our needs. It is a shame to see that an Aide-de-Camp of His Excellency the Governor in this province is a Punjabi. Are not there men in this province to fill that post? Are we so unfit for it that we have to request the other provinces to send a man to serve as Aide-de-Camp to our Governor? I respectfully submit, Sir, that His Excellency will be pleased to consider these points and have a Madrasi Indian officer as his Aide-de-Camp and also recommend to the Government that we should have at least twelve Madrasi regiments consisting purely of Madrasis. I also think that an Aide-de-Camp to His Excellency may be appointed from our present Sappers and Miners. Especially now when a new constitution is coming into being, it is the duty of the Government to see that we have at least twelve Madrasi regiments. With these words, Sir, I move my cut motion."

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* The DEPUTY PRESIDENT :—" This also is a motion raising a definite issue. Therefore it may be voted upon separately before the other motions are taken up." 1-11 p.m.

* The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM :—" Mr. President, I am sure the whole House and in fact every one of us will be perfectly at one with the hon. Member in his desire for Madrasi armies. I may assure the hon. Member that he can have my fullest sympathy, but speaking on behalf of the Government I will be incompetent to say anything about it because army matters are absolutely out of our purview and it is wholly for the Government of India to look into the matter.

" As far as the appointment of Aides-de-Camp from the Indian officers of the old Madrasi army is concerned, I have to point out that the selection of Aides-de-Camp is to be made entirely by His Excellency at his own discretion and others have absolutely no voice in the matter; and one of the conditions of service of the Aide-de-Camp is that he must be a man in the active list. But it is only in the case of Honorary Aides-de-Camp that retired men can be taken in; and the Honorary Indian Aide-de-Camp of our Governor is an officer of the old Madras Army. Therefore, Sir, I would submit that it would not be possible for us to insist on His Excellency the Governor choosing particular officers to be personally attendant on him, particularly when in the matter of the appointment of Honorary Aides-de-Camp wherein the qualification need be only past service in the old Madras Army, His Excellency has taken into consideration the claims of retired officers of the Madras Army. (Subadar-Major S. A. Nanjappa Bahadur: ' I do not want to insist this on His Excellency the Governor, but I am respectfully submitting these facts for His Excellency's consideration.) I am sure, Sir, His Excellency will go through this debate and give due weight to the views expressed by hon. Members. As it is, we have got one officer as an Honorary Aide-de-Camp to His Excellency from the old Madras Army. I hope my hon. Friend will withdraw his motion."

Rao Bahadur Subadar-Major S. A. NANJAPPA Bahadur :—" On the assurance given by the Hon. the Home Member, I wish to withdraw the motion, Sir."

The cut motion was by leave withdrawn.

* Mr. V. T. ARASU :—" Sir, I beg to move the following cut motion standing in my name, namely :—

' *To reduce the allotment of Rs.* 33,500 *for Executive Council—Pay of Establishments and other charges by Rs.* 100.'

" Sir, if I rise to make this motion, it is to make one humble request to His Excellency the Governor through this House that in the matter of the appointment of Aides-de-Camp, he should try and see if one more Indian could not be appointed as an Aide-de-Camp. At present we have only one Indian as an Aide-de-Camp to His Excellency,

while there are four Europeans in that capacity. I would therefore suggest to the Hon. the Home Member to convey to His Excellency the *humble request of this House, that His Excellency should try and see* if he could not appoint one more Indian as an Aide-de-Camp to attend on him.

" There is one point, Mr. President, on which I should like to get some information from the Hon. the Home Member. I find that there is an allotment of Rs. 25,000 for discretionary grants by His Excellency the Governor. In the year 1934–35 this sum of Rs. 25,000 was allotted only for His Excellency the Governor and no such sum was allotted as discretionary grants by Collectors, but I find in the budget estimate for 1936–37 two such sums have been set apart for this purpose, one for discretionary grants by His Excellency the Governor and a similar amount as discretionary grants by Collectors. I should like to know from the Hon. the Home Member why this double allotment this year especially."

* Mr. A. B. SHETTY :—" Sir, in about a year's time from now, we shall have the new constitution. Probably this is the last Budget we shall have the opportunity of discussing in this Council. At a time like this it may not be out of place if I draw the attention of the Government to the desirability of their encouraging the formation of political parties, parties based on political differences with definite policies and clear-cut programmes and not parties based merely on grounds of race, religion or caste or communities. The Joint Committee has pointed out how the formation of organized political parties is necessary for the successful working of a parliamentary system of Government. They have also said that not only the existence of political parties but also the existence of a large body of opinion which owes no allegiance to one party or the other but which gives its support to each party in turn and preserves an equipoise is necessary for the successful working of responsible Government. They regretfully observe that political parties as they understand them and a mobile body of political opinion as described by them do not exist in this country. We can say that in this province we have at least two parties, namely, the Justice Party and the Congress Party. The Congress Party has more or less given up civil disobedience and it has entered the legislatures and in all probability it will make an attempt to capture the Ministry in the new legislatures. Government should give up their hostile attitude towards the Congress Party; they must show a responsive gesture; they must give instructions to their district officials to give up their anti-Congress attitude and remain neutral in the matter of elections. I am reminded here of what Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru says in his Reminiscences of the late Lord Reading. When the late Viceroy was considering with his Executive Council the question of a settlement with Mahatma Gandhi, some Member of the Executive Council made a slighting reference to some of the Congress leaders and the Viceroy at once rebuked that Member and said: 'I will have nothing of that. His Majesty's prisoners of to-day may be His Majesty's Ministers of

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to-morrow.' If the Government or the party in power armed with their inexhaustible resources fight the popular party, it will be difficult for that party to fight against such great odds. It will hamper the establishment and growth of political parties in this country and in this province. Even supposing the Congress Party does not succeed in capturing the Ministry, we may take it that by coming into the Council in large numbers, they will form a strong opposition. I need hardly say how necessary and how useful it is to have a sufficient number of people in the Council sitting in the Opposition. Criticism serves a very useful purpose as it keeps the Government and the party in power vigilant in the performance of their duties. In the House of Commons Prime Ministers have often deplored the absence of a strong opposition whenever the balance of parties seemed to be very disproportionate.

"Now, Sir, we may compare and contrast the last Council with the present Council. In the last Council we had a large well-disciplined and well-knit party, namely, the Congress Party in Opposition. They kept the Government benches alert and the proceedings were lively and interesting, but in this Council unfortunately, the opposition is weak; there are a number of groups divided from each other and, I need hardly say how dull and uninteresting our proceedings are and we often find how difficult it is even to get a quorum. I would therefore request the Government to see that the inauguration of the new constitution is undertaken in a new spirit, and that they change their attitude particularly towards the Congress Party.

"I would next draw attention to the state of our finances and the condition of the masses. We are glad that the Hon. the Finance Member proposes to make a comprehensive survey of taxation in this province both provincial and local, with a view to see what economy could be effected and what adjustment of taxation is necessary. Sir, Madras, by means of a high level of taxation was able not only to balance her budget but also to accumulate balances and those balances were spent on capital expenditure. Accumulated balance means so much excess revenue taken from the people. We are glad to note that the Hon. the Finance Member says that the new Government will have to approach its budget with a new angle of vision. They will have to first find out what expenditure is necessary and adjust taxation accordingly. Sir, the distinguished predecessor of our present Finance Member was expressing his solicitude for making the path easy for the new Government by seeing that the financial position of the province was in a solvent condition. Sir, these balanced and surplus budgets in this province have been built upon the ruin of the millions of the tax-payers of this province. I would like to ask whether the prosperity of the people is not as necessary, if not more necessary, as a foundation for the prosperity of public finance and as essential a condition for the success of the new Government as the solvency of the Government? A Committee appointed by this Government to go into the economic condition of certain districts has pointed out . . ."

* The Deputy President :—" Order, order, the hon. Member may continue his speech after lunch interval."

The Council then adjourned for lunch.

After Lunch—2-30 p.m.

* Mr. A. B. Shetty :—" Mr. Deputy President, Sir, when I was speaking before the House rose for lunch I heard the Hon. the Home Member expressing a mild surprise and asking why I was speaking about matters which were not strictly within his purview. Probably he expected me to speak about the police, the depressed classes, labour, the unemployment problem and such other subjects which are under his charge. I think, Sir, the demand relates to the whole executive council and I can speak about matters which are dealt with by his Hon. Colleagues also.

" The next constitution and its successful working must be a matter of anxious concern to the Government. I was speaking about the general policy of administration by the executive council and by the Government. The first point I urged was that with a view to see that the new Government worked successfully Government ought to do all that was in their power to encourage the formation of political parties in this country and in this Province. The second point I took up was how the anxious solicitude of the Government to leave the finances in a prosperous state for making matters easy for the next Government had affected the condition of our masses. The improvement of the condition of the agricultural people who form the bulk of the population, the people who bear us all on their backs, the people from whom about half the income of the state is derived, their improvement must be the first and final object of every Government. Whenever we made a demand for larger remissions, for the suspension of resettlement or reduction of taxation Government always pleaded that they must leave the finances in a prosperous state for the next Government. They said they were able to collect land-taxes, that their collections were about 98 per cent. There is no doubt they are able to collect the taxes. The revenue collectors insist on their pound of flesh though in the process they are bleeding the masses to death. A committee appointed some time ago by the Government to enquire into the economic condition of certain districts has pointed out how the margin left to the cultivator after paying the land revenue demand is inadequate or nil. They have pointed out how the land revenue system is unsatisfactory and how the incidence of land-tax is very high in this Province. According to Mr. Sathianadan the total agricultural indebtedness in this Province has amounted to 200 crores of rupees. Government have been giving remissions to give relief to the people. It cannot be denied that these remissions are only temporary palliatives. What steps are Government going to take to adopt our land revenue system to the prevailing economic conditions. You know that the Punjab Government have adopted a new system. They have adjusted their land revenue demand to the fluctuations in the prices. We are told that this Government have got

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from the Punjab the papers relating to this matter and submitted them to the Board of Revenue and the matter is under the consideration of the Government. I would like to know what is proposed to be done in the matter. The United Provinces Government have taken up the amendment of their Land Revenue Act. They are proposing to fix their resettlement rates on the basis of the prevailing low level of prices. Are this Government going to leave this matter to the next autonomous Government? I think they should not. The long experience of our Hon. the Revenue Member will be lost to us if he does not try to adapt our land revenue system to the present economic condition of the country and leaves it to be dealt with by the next Government. What the present situation requires is not merely temporary relief but well-conceived permanent measures for rehabilitating the ruined condition of the masses of the country. With these words I have great pleasure in supporting the motion moved by my friend Mr. Arasu."

* Mr. G. Simhachalam Pantulu:—" Mr. Deputy President, Sir, here again, I am very sorry to give my woeful tale to hon. Members. At the outset I must say though a staunch Justicite (Hear, hear) I am obliged to pass certain strictures on the work of the secretariat here. It is a very unpleasant thing for me, Sir, to say that in every department connected with the Executive Council the disposal is rather unsound. They do not seem to be taking any genuine interest in their work either in safeguarding the interests of the public servants in particular or the public in general. I will not weary the House with a number of details or catalogue my grievances. They are not my personal grievances. In my district in every department I see a great injustice was done and things are going on in a happy-go-lucky-manner. They have not cared either for the servants or for the public of the province. One day when I pointed out a certain thing and discussed it with the Secretary he said that the Government had to entirely depend upon the Collector and that it was too small a matter for them in which to interfere, with the discretion of the Collector. It is certainly a small matter for either the Secretary or the Deputy Secretary sitting here. But it is a great matter to the person who is actually injured. This matter relates to the grant of a bus licence. The District Superintendent is prepared to give the licence but the District Magistrate is not willing to give the licence. Well, we can imagine how a man who has purchased a bus for Rs. 4,000 and paid all the fees due to the District Superintendent and the district board will feel when a licence is refused arbitrarily. The District Magistrate says he cannot give the G-Permit. When he complains to the Government they say it is too small a matter in which to interfere. How can the Government gain the confidence of the public? (A voice: 'Public consists of motor bus owners only?') They are also included in the public. You cannot exclude them because certain people are bus owners. I will come to my points one by one. I have not got any material with regard to the Leader of the House. With regard to the other departments I have got grievances. In the Public Department Government Orders are

issued regarding examinations and public services. Wonderful conditions are being fixed. The Government Orders are so very conflicting and inconsistent that acting and permanent people are in a very confused state. In the Secretariat they do not take any care or interest. So many criticizms are put forth but no improvement. The Government Orders are confusing and conflicting and the disposal is not good. Too much delay is caused. When an appeal is addressed to Government for years there is no reply or response. That is so in the Public Department. With regard to the Finance Department I have got one matter. A retired circle inspector, Mr. M. Sanyasiah Nayudu, in Vizagapatam who had earned the reputation of being a capable inspector of police and who is a loyalist has lost his half pension on the ground that there has been grave misconduct on his part. Even an Hon. Judge of the Madras High Court was pleased to say that Government should not interfere with his pension. He was bound over in a security case. Taking it as a basis, a loyal subordinate who has served the Government for 30 years with unblemished service, a wonderful circle inspector—I personally know him as he was an inspector at Narasaraopet when I was young—had to lose half his pension on the ground, that he was bound over in a security case. The Hon'ble High Court Judge was pleased to say that it was not a grave misconduct and it ought not to affect his pension at all. Still his pension is reduced. Memorials have been sent but no favourable orders have been got. That has really created a sort of sensation in the Vizagapatam district. It is a thing known to so many friends in the Council. Very many are aware of this fact. Many thanks to His Excellency for having notified that appeals to him should be forwarded by the heads of the departments. Large number of memorials are being withheld. One Parabrahma Sastri, Supervisor, Public Works Department, sent a memorial for compassionate allowance. Some time ago, probably one year back, he has submitted a memorial and it has not seen the light of day. I do not know whether it was lodged or whether it was really submitted to His Excellency the Governor. I want to elicit that information from the Hon. Minister in charge. Again, one year back, I have myself submitted a memorial for the investigation of certain minor projects to improve the irrigation in the uplands of the Guntur district. I have personally interviewed the Secretary of the Public Works Department. He appeared to be very courteous to me and said that he would look into the matter. Now one full year has elapsed and nothing has come out of it. Thus, I was unfortunately denied an opportunity to press the claims of my constituency on the Irrigation demand."

Mr. V. T. Arasu :—" On a point of order, Sir. Is the hon. Member in order in referring to those things? I think he will be in order in raising those points when we are discussing the Demand relating to General Administration—Secretariat."

* Mr. G. Simhachalam Pantulu :—" When we are talking of the Executive Council, I think all those things are relevant, and I do not know how my hon. Friend thinks otherwise and wants to differ. Now,

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I request the Hon. the Member in charge of Public Works (Voice: 'Minister.') or the Hon. the Revenue Member whoever may be in charge of the subject to look into my request for the investigation of the minor irrigation projects such as Kandleru, and Nagaleru otherwise called Melavagu Project. (Interruption.) Minor irrigation is not perhaps in the reserved departments and you don't know who is dealing with it."

* The DEPUTY PRESIDENT:—" The hon. Member will please address the Chair." 2— p.

Mr. G. SIMHACHALAM PANTULU:—" Yes, Sir. Next, as regards the Local Self-Government Department, my submission is that they are also in a chaotic condition (laughter) and so many persons were mercilessly removed from office on the abolition of the taluk boards. A Special Officer was appointed for the purpose, and that Special Officer made a mess of the whole thing. I do not know to whom the blame is to be attributed. But so many innocent persons were actually thrown out of employment. When I pointed out these serious irregularities to the Secretary of the Local Self-Government Department, Mr. Russell. . . ."

The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM:—" I rise to a point of order, Sir. Under this head, perhaps it may be a very doubtful point as to what subjects might be referred to. However, I do not know whether the hon. Member is right in directing his attacks on Transferred Subjects when we are dealing with the Executive Council."

* The DEPUTY PRESIDENT:—" Will the hon. Member confine himself to the Reserved portion and not go on traversing the whole ground?"

* Mr. G. SIMHACHALAM PANTULU:—" I only propose to attack the Secretariat."

* The DEPUTY PRESIDENT:—" The hon. Member will be in order if he confines himself only to the Secretariat of the Reserved half."

* Mr. G. SIMHACHALAM PANTULU:—" I will be satisfied with that, Sir. (Laughter.) I shall only direct my remarks to those three unfortunate gentlemen excluding the Hon. the Law Member. (Laughter.) Now, I come to the Revenue Deartment. Forty years have elapsed, Sir, since Act III of 1895 was passed, and the Revenue department did not think it worth while to suggest any amendments to that Act, although many of those provisions are not suitable to the conditions obtaining to-day. I do not know why they have not brought forward any amendments to Act III of 1895 so far. Recently, I submitted several amendments and gave notice of a Bill, and they said that because the Secretary of State had not delegated powers to them, this Council had no authority to pass that Bill. I respectfully differ on that point, and request the Hon. the Revenue Member to get the matter settled as required by the rules. Still, I think that the delegation of powers is not necessary in a matter like that and that sanction can be given to it by the Local Government

in the Revenue Department. Yesterday, Sir, Sir Patro speaking on the Registration grant said that unless Members were able to substantiate their allegations of corruption they should not talk of those things in this Council. I do agree with him. Let me give this instance. When there was a regular complaint made against a Tahsildar to the Collector, when one Deputy Collector conducted a preliminary investigation and another Deputy Collector held a regular enquiry into the matter, and when the Collector dismissed the man, the Board of Revenue and the Government thought that all the evidence was got up for the purpose. Sir, corruption is tolerated in the Revenue Department, not only in the Registration department. One hundred and fifty persons gave evidence that they actually paid an officer and unfortunately the persons who gave evidence were all booked and mercilessly punished. One village officer who happened to be one of the witnesses in that enquiry was dismissed four months after that incident on a trivial charge of having allowed an encroachment in his own village. What he did was he allowed a relation of his to put up a twig pandal in front of his house on a religious occasion and the pandal was there for one or two months and then it was removed. For this he was found fault with and deprived of his livelihood. The Collector dismissed his appeal, the Board of Revenue arbitrarily and summarily rejected the second appeal, and the Government refused to interfere with the finding of the Board. If there is any one to give evidence against any corrupt officer, that is his fate. Will the Hon. the Revenue Member be pleased to investigate into this matter and see on what grounds this unfortunate village officer was removed from office? It is unprecedented in the history of the British administration in India that a village officer should be dismissed on such a trivial ground. In a village so many things happen. Is it a serious charge to allow a relation to have a pandal in front of his house on a religious occasion? Yet on this trivial charge, they found it fit to dismiss a permanent village officer because he happened to give evidence against the Tahsildar. Is this official prestige? Is this the way to maintain the prestige of the Government? Is it the way to gain the confidence of the people? If you give evidence against a Government officer, your fate is sealed. That is the opinion created among the people in the villages. So, the Government must remember all these things, be firm and do justice to the people. One revenue inspector was lucky in this respect. He was dismissed for some reason or other, and the Government declined to interfere in his case. But luckily His Excellency the Governor was pleased to reinstate him. Again, another revenue inspector was found fault with for minor irregularities about this remission business in the Kistna district. His name is Sambasiva Rao. Because he did not prepare correctly the remission accounts, he was dimissed after 17 years of unblemished service. Even the figures given by the Collectors are being challenged in this House. After all, that revenue inspector did not recommend any remissions. But the Revenue Divisional Officer in his overenthusiasm and zeal said that the records were not properly maintained, and so he was dismissed.

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"Again one karnam was dismissed because the Tahsildar told the Collector that in order to help the people he prepared false remission accounts. After the whole crop was harvested, the then Revenue Divisional Officer, the Collector and the Tahsildar all came in a motor car, inspected the heap of crop and sitting in the car began to estimate the crop from the stumps left after the harvest. On that estimate, they said that the karnam prepared a false account just to help the people, and the revenue inspector's increment also was withheld with cumulative effect. Is there not to be any policy in these matters? If you want to maintain the prestige of the Government, it is no use merely to take the word of the man on the spot. The Collector is supposed to be responsible for running the administration in the district, and let him be just to the people. Everything is done on paper here. Why not at least go through the papers carefully (laughter)? For everything the stereotyped reply is, 'The Government decline to interfere; the Collector does not recommend the application.' Does this inspire confidence in the people? At any rate, it does not make the Government popular. People used to think that there are the Executive Council Members with their Secretariat and that they can get justice there. In the local administration, the Collector has so many things to do; he may do justice or injustice. But when the matter comes to the Government, naturally you will have to consider all those things and do justice. That sort of thing is not done here. I am very sorry to make that observation. In every taluk headquarters, money is spent for the purpose of despatching the Collector's tapals, either from out of the funds of the sub-treasury or from the anamath account. It is being followed everywhere. But in the Guntur headquarters subtreasury, one Tahsildar took leave and another gentleman was posted there. Just at the time he was taking charge, he found there was Rs. 5 less in the sub-treasury. Vouchers were substituted for money and it was said that the amount was spent for carrying tapals to the Collector. Yet the matter was reported to the Government. The head accountant said that the money was not spent out of the single-lock account but out of the anamath account. That was disbelieved and he was depromoted as an ordinary clerk. After all, the money was spent for the purpose of carrying tapals to the Collector in camp. The Deputy Collector was aware of it. I do not know how the authorities allow the taluk office to spend money for this purpose and why they punish that man alone. When that man appealed to the Government, they simply said that they agree with the Collector in his decision.

"Now, I will come to the final stage (laughter) and deal with something substantial about my own district. I have already referred to the importance of carrying out the minor irrigation projects such as Kandleru, Nagaleru or Melavagu in the upland tracts of the Guntur district. Another thing I want to suggest, without offending any of the Members of the Executive Council, is this. The 50 lakhs grant sanctioned and now being spent for the purpose of improving the irrigation sources will be absolute waste, because you are not calling for tenders."

* The DEPUTY PRESIDENT:—" Order, order, the hon. Member should address the Chair, and not the Executive Council as 'you.' "

Mr. G. SIMHACHALAM PANTULU:—" By 'you' I mean Government."

* The DEPUTY PRESIDENT:—" The hon. Member should not address the Government even; he should address the Chair."

Mr. G. SIMHACHALAM PANTULU:—" Whenever I said 'you' I meant the Government."

* The DEPUTY PRESIDENT:—" The hon. Member ought not to say that too."

Mr. G. SIMHACHALAM PANTULU:—" No tenders are being called for. The selection of contractors is entirely left to some officer on Rs. 150 or so; and the execution is not effective, and the little help that is sought to be rendered to people is absolutely wasted. So I would suggest in order to dispose of that amount the Government must frame certain rules and see that the amount is usefully spent."

* Mr. C. BASU DEV:—" Mr. Deputy President, I rise to invite the attention of the Reserved Half of the Government to one or two outstanding questions that confront this province, perhaps in common with other provinces, questions nonetheless that must find solution, the earlier the better, if we are to afford relief to the people of this province. Sir, from the reports, particularly of the Taxation Enquiry Committee, and of Mr. Sathyanathan who was appointed to investigate the question of rural indebtedness, we find that this monster of indebtedness had made terrific strides during the recent past and shows no signs of abating in the future. I know that Government are making attempts, heroic attempts in some cases, to stem the tide of this evil. But their own officers, Mr. Austin for instance, have said that they have not touched even the fringe of the problem. The methods now being tried to relieve the peasantry through land mortgage banks, agricultural loans and debt conciliation boards are not in my opinion adequate and do not come anywhere near the solution of this problem. Sir, year after year, we have had the cry mostly from the Opposition benches and also from some on the benches on which I sit (A voice: 'Which is it?') that Government should remit a good portion of land revenue. From the very beginning I took a hostile attitude to this demand for remission, for I held, and I still hold, that this remission does not relieve 90 per cent of the peasantry in whose name the cry for remission has been raised. If any big landholder wants remission, by all means let Government give but let them not add insult to injury by saying they do so in the name and for the benefit of the peasantry. The relief the peasantry wants is relief from the millstone of indebtedness which is steadily and surely grinding them to extinction. I submit that agriculture has gone insolvent and there is no good in pretending it has not. The best thing to do is for the Government to liquidate it and declare a 50 per cent dividend. This

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would forthwith reduce the provincial rural debt to about 100 crores which can be paid in yearly instalments from the moneys collected from the debtors together with the amount of 50 lakhs which the Government are now wasting in the name of revenue remission. This I submit is the only and the certain method by which real relief can be given to the peasantry. The other day when we were discussing the Debt Conciliation Bill, which our hon. Friend, Mr. Ramalingam Chettiyar, introduced in this House, we were informed of an experiment tried in the State of Bhavanagar; the Government of that State took upon themselves the redemption of the debt of the peasantry paying itself by collecting the loans advanced to the peasants by small yearly instalments. It may be that this is in contravention of certain well-defined principles of State activities, but I submit that we are now faced with an exceptional situation; extraordinary measures are required to meet extraordinary or exceptional circumstances.

"I am told that the Government are doing something, I know Sir, they are experimenting in two districts to which the Hon. Finance Member referred in his speech introducing the budget of this year. He said that in two districts this experiment is being carried on and that a sum of 20 lakhs is earmarked for it for next year. For that I thank the Hon. Finance Member and I am sure the public of the Presidency will be grateful to the Government and to the Finance Member. But my respectful submission is that 20 lakhs in a matter of 200 crores of rural indebtedness, is certainly not a sum over which we can feel any satisfaction. I had asked in my speech during the general discussion on the budget, what was the nature of the experiment they are making, whether in paying off the debts of the ryots, Government or its officers are taking into consideration the economic value of the rupee and reducing the amount payable to the creditors proportionately. I should like to have more detailed information about this. If it is merely paying the whole amount. . . (The Hon. the Finance Member: 'No.') The Hon. the Finance Member says 'No,' I am glad. But to what extent is the debt being reduced, is it by 50 per cent? I submit that the economic value of the rupee is practically double of what it was previously. There is no justification to attempt the payment of the rupee back in these days when we are able to purchase twice what it could purchase in the previous years. Referring back to Bhavanagar, I know they will say that Bhavanagar is a small State and the total amount of its debt is only Rs. 20 lakhs. Certainly Bhavanagar is a small State but its revenue and resources as compared with our Presidency are equally small. Our province can easily be divided into so many Bhavanagars and the experiment repeated simultaneously in all the units.

"Another question which I should like to refer to is the question of unemployment. As everyone knows it is a very great and difficult question, and the Governments of certain other provinces are making some definite attempts to solve it. I ask this Government to follow the example of United Provinces where they have set apart some amount of money to implement the recommendations of the Sapru

Committee. The other day my Friend, Mr. Krishnamurti, speaking on this vexed question made certain suggestions. I am sure the whole House will agree with me that the question of unemployment is a very serious one, assuming as days pass by greater and greater proportions, and the sooner the Government sets its hand to the solution of this problem the better. I am afraid I am not in a position to offer any constructive suggestions to the Government on this question. It is a very serious, a very vast problem which requires careful study, careful analysis and serious thought. I am sure the Government with the resources at their back will be able to solve it much better than anybody else.

"Another question that I want to advert to is the question of the condition of the workers in this Presidency. Unfortunately the solution of the problem rests more with the Government of India but I am sure the Government of Madras will take some initiative and be kind enough to make recommendations to the Government of India for its consideration. The question which now agitates the minds of the workers in this Presidency as in other presidencies is the most atrocious amendment of Sir H. P. Mody which was recently passed in connexion with the Wages Bill. It does not come within the purview of this Government, but I am sure that the Government of Madras can convey to the Government of India their opinion and the feeling of the workers about this amendment; it is a negation of the fundamental elementary rights of workers; I wonder how this amendment had secured a majority in the Assembly; perhaps the silence of the people's representatives in the Assembly contributed not a little to the way the vote was cast. Sir, in certain factories, employers are cheating the workers by putting on their muster roll, not tens, not hundreds but thousands of workers on casual basis, workers working not for days but for months, years together."

Mr. V. T. Arasu:—"I should like to raise a point of order, Sir, I can understand the hon. Member making references to subjects pertaining to this Government. But Labour is a subject which concerns the Government of India and in making reference to any legislation in the Assembly in connexion with that subject I don't know whether the hon. Member is in order."

* The Deputy President:—"The hon. Member has explained himself. He said that the question does not relate to this Government, but yet he may request the Government of Madras to do certain things. So he has explained himself in referring to that subject."

* Mr. C. Basu Dev:—"I thank you, Mr. Deputy President. There is precedent for the suggestion I am now making. When the House wanted a duty on foreign rice, the Madras Government did take steps and did recommend to the Government of India certain course of action. I do not see any irrelevancy in my representation to the Government of Madras to make similar representations to the Government of India on matters deeply affecting the workers. Sir,

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I was referring to the methods by which employers of labour cheat the workers out of their legitimate privileges and rights. They keep thousands of workers, not for days, not for months but for years on a casual basis so as to deprive them of their rights for notice, etc. This is a matter which deserves the serious attention of the Government. I am sure that the time has come when the Government would have seriously to consider the desirability of having a special officer, an officer to go into questions or problems affecting the workers in this province, particularly in Coimbatore, where industrialisation is growing at a rapid pace and which I am sure will ere long become another Ahmedabad. If we want to have industrial peace and industrial progress we must attend to the needs of the workers. We must see that 3-
the illiteracy, ignorance and the helplessness of the workers is not P
exploited by the employers. I am not making any allegation against any employer, but, human nature being what it is, this exploitation of the voiceless masses is taking place and will continue to take place unless Government steps in and protects the workers. With these few words I beg once more the Hon. Members on the Reserved Half to view the questions which I have placed before them with sympathy and do whatever they can possibly do. If it is within their competence I would request them to take action themselves, if outside, to make the necessary representations to the Government of India."

* Rao Sahib V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—" Mr. Deputy President, speaking of the policy of the Government as far as the Reserved Half is concerned, I would like to bring to the notice of the Government the meagre attention given to the amelioration of the scheduled castes.

" Sir, replying to the general debate the other day, the Hon. the Home Member said that the amount provided for 1936–37 is higher than the amount provided in the previous year. I do not know how he said so. Looking at the Budget for 1936–37 I find that at page 421 the revised estimate for 1935–36 is Rs. 1,18,600 for the district staff and Rs. 8,36,700 for work connected with depressed classes making a total of Rs. 9,55,300. The budget estimate for 1936–37 provides for district staff Rs. 1,20,600 and for the work connected with the depressed classes Rs. 8,34,000 making a total of Rs. 9,54,600. The budget estimate provides therefore a smaller sum than the revised estimate for 1935–36. The Hon. Member also observed that even if the whole revenue derived from land were given to the work of the depressed classes it would not be sufficient. If that is so, it only shows the magnitude of the work that has to be done for the depressed classes. I would earnestly point out to the Hon. Member that the provision made for the depressed classes for 1936–37 is not at all adequate. The Government themselves have admitted that even the provision made last year was not adequate as will be seen from the following extract from their Administration Report: ' The work for the amelioration of the depressed classes continued to be done on a restricted scale. The chief items of work remained the same in previous years. The special

staff was working only in the 14 districts as before.' This shows that the provision made for the depressed classes is not at all adequate. Moreover, no new items have been sanctioned for the depressed classes. Sir, the last administration report of the Labour department was reviewed by the Government in their G.O. No. 2507 L., dated 20th November 1935. Therein mention has been made of the conference of Collectors and it is stated: 'After very careful consideration the Government have decided upon a scheme by which they will bear half the cost of acquisition, subject to a maximum of Rs. 125 per acre for dry land and Rs. 250 per acre for wet. Of the balance, the applicant is to deposit 50 per cent before acquisition, and pay the remaining 50 per cent in a limited number of instalments, not exceeding ten, by way of equated payments covering principal and interest. It is hoped that this measure of assistance by Government will go a long way towards relieving the present distress of the depressed classes.'

"Sir, I am glad to find that the Government have made a provision of Rs. 35,000 to be given as loans to depressed classes and labourers. I do not know whether it means agricultural labourers or industrial labourers. But if it is intended for these two classes together, I am afraid the provision would be totally inadequate, because their number will be very large. I request the Government to see their way to ask the Labour Commissioner to bring some new schemes for the relief of unemployment among the depressed classes in the various districts. I found from the debates in the Council of State that a motion was brought forward for setting apart Rs. 50 lakhs for the depressed classes. Fortunately for us the Hon. Diwan Bahadur G. Narayanaswami Chetti strongly supported the motion knowing as he does the condition of the depressed classes in this Presidency. Unfortunately the motion was not passed; the Government however have undertaken to write to local Governments to see what they can do in the matter. So, it is clear that it is not only here, but even in the Legislative Assembly, the need is felt that some substantial provision must be made to alleviate the condition of the depressed classes. Of course, I am not here finding fault with the Government for not doing more for the depressed classes. I am only requesting the Hon. the Home Member, who knows the condition of the depressed classes, to note the strong feeling in the country to do something substantial to elevate the condition of the depressed classes before the new Reforms are launched upon. I wish the Government makes it a point at least now to see that substantial amounts are set apart for the elevation of the depressed classes.

"I may also mention in this connexion, Sir, that on going through the whole list of Part II schemes, I find that only Rs. 11,200 have been set aside for the depressed classes. Any one who knows the condition of these people will agree, Sir, that this sum of Rs. 11,200 will only form a drop in the ocean. I trust the Hon. the Home Member, who knows the condition of the depressed classes in this Presidency, will do something substantial for them during his regime."

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Mr. G. R. PREMAYYA:—" Mr. Deputy President, Sir, I believe if I say something about the Revenue department, some official will reply on behalf of the Hon. the Revenue Member."

* The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM:—" I do not raise it as a point of order, but, Sir, may I just suggest to hon. Members that they might try to confine themselves to the demand under consideration and not traverse the whole field of administration so that the discussion may be a little useful? My Hon. Friend the Revenue Member had not the least idea that anything concerning the Revenue department was going to be said under this demand. It was only the other day that that department was discussed for full two hours and the Hon. Member replied to all the points raised. Though I am here, as I have no chance of knowing the inner details of the department and my Hon. Colleague has no chance of knowing what is now said about the Revenue department under this demand, no useful purpose will be served by discussing anything about that department."

Mr. G. R. PREMAYYA:—" Then, I will attack the Labour department, Sir."

The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM:—" Even for that, I would ask the hon. Member to wait till we take up Demand XXVII."

* The DEPUTY PRESIDENT:—" The cut motion is—

'*To reduce the allotment of Rs.* 33,500 *for Executive Council.*' "

* The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM:—" That does not mean that all departments of Government can be discussed under this demand. If that were so, we could divide the budget into two halves, one for the Reserved Half and one for the Transferred Half."

Mr. G. R. PREMAYYA:—" Sir, a little while ago, the Hon. Member said that we can speak about the Reserved Half under this demand."

* The DEPUTY PRESIDENT:—" I do not think the hon. Member can speak on the demands that have already been voted upon. He should confine himself to the Home Member's demand now under discussion."

* Mr. G. R. PREMAYYA:—" The administration of the Labour department has not been criticized all these years on account of the fact that that demand was never reached. Last year I offered a few remarks on the Labour department under this demand. This morning the Hon. the Home Member said in answer to my interpellation that the Paddison Hostel was located in a healthy place. Sir, for his information I may say that it is very near the Tuberculosis Hospital, that two boys of the hostel have already died of tuberculosis and that this disease has affected other inmates of the hostel. Some time back I read in the papers that on account of the complaints from the residents of the locality, the hospital was going to be shifted to the Spur Tank. I now see that that idea has been abandoned. Perhaps the Hon. Member thinks that there is nothing wrong in locating this hostel near the Tuberculosis Hospital. Perhaps the outcry against it

has not been loud enough to reach his ears. Sir, I believe the advisory board of the Paddison Hostel considered this matter and has informed the authorities about it. It is hoped that he would do something in the matter though the possibilities are that nothing will be done. There is something connected with that building that I should not say in public. (*A voice:* '*Don't say it please.*') The building belongs to a certain person who is a close relation of a big man. People believe that that is the reason why the hostel is not removed from that building. If that be the reason for not shifting the hostel to some other place, it is very deplorable. They should not care more for the money that goes into the pocket of a big man than for the health of the depressed class pupils in that hostel. I do not know how to characterise this attitude of the Government. The public are told, in this state of affairs, that everything is going on perfectly well.

"With regard to the food served there I want to say something. The doctor in charge proposed that ragi may be given as one of the items of food. The same proposal was made to all the hostels in the city.

-30 .m. "But the managing committees of other hostels have decided not to introduce ragi as one of the items of food. Here in the Paddison Hostel they have introduced it since last year. We said that it must be given up. But yet they say it is a healthy food. Although it is a healthy food, I ask why it should not be used in several of the other hostels in the city and why it should have been used in Paddison Hostel alone which is intended for the depressed classes. Next time when the hostel committee meets we are going to fight against this sort of thing and I want to tell this to the Hon. the Home Member for his information.

"The next thing which I wish to refer to is the help which the Collector proposes to give to those who want to acquire lands. Last year and the years before the lands that were acquired for house-sites for the depressed classes were acquired in two ways: (1) they were acquired with the consent of the owners of lands and if it was done so, the prices of those lands were higher than those of adjoining lands, or (2) they were acquired without the landowners' consent and if the owners went to court, and Government also contested the suits and spent money for that purpose all that was added to the cost of the lands and there was no benefit in the Government acquiring the lands and giving them to the depressed classes, because the latter had to pay all the extra charges incurred on account of court costs. Now, Sir, the Government say that 50 per cent or half the cost will be borne by them. Now the people are afraid on account of what had happened during previous years and are therefore not coming forward to take any land acquired by the Government. Generally the places where Harijans live are congested. It will be very expensive in the deltaic areas if Government acquire house-sites for Harijans. There is one restriction, *viz.*, that Government will pay half the cost only if the land costs

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Rs. 150 only. In the deltaic areas the cost of land per acre will be Rs. 2,000 or Rs. 3,000 and if the Government are going to acquire such lands and if they ask the Harijans to pay the full value of such lands it would be very difficult for them, because they will have to pay the full sum. What is the relief given to them by Government? So, this sort of help which the Government propose to give to Harijans will not be of any use to them. The Labour department was started some ten or twelve years ago for the purpose of ameliorating the condition of the Harijans and I make bold to say that the help the Government are giving these Harijans is not at all equal to that given by the Congresswallahs. Many of the Harijans are being captured by the Congresswallahs, because they know that they are being helped more by the Congresswallahs. I am sure we are being treated with scant courtesy by the Government. Of course the Government may say that so many acres of land have been given to the Harijans for their cultivation. But I ask what is the kind of land that has been given to them? The land is one of sandy soil, alkaline soil and things of that sort which will never bring any benefit to the Harijans. All worthless lands are assigned to them and they cannot make anything out of them. The other day the Collector of Guntur cancelled some orders of assignment of lands made to the Harijans because the Harijans did not cultivate them at all. But no protest was made by the Harijans because they felt glad that such useless lands were being taken away from them. They are of the poorest of the poor and they did not want to spend the little money they get by way of wages for improving those lands and I say no one can improve them also.

" As I said before, as the Harijans are not getting any help from the Government, they have decided to join the Congress. Of course they are not instructed by anybody to join the Congress. Last year I mentioned in my speech that these people are treated with scant courtesy. Although the Hon. the Home Member explained it in a sort of way, I was not at all convinced. I may also say that the Government are not treating the Harijans in the Andhra districts as they are treating them in the Tamil districts.

" Lastly, I wish to make one observation. The Harijan community is a God-forsaken community and they cannot raise themselves to the level of other communities. It is also difficult for the Government to lift them up. What is needed is patience. Our Labour Commissioners have been very patient and trying their best to help the community. Especially my friend, Mr. Slater, whom I loved very much tried his best to ameliorate the condition of the depressed classes, but yet the Government could not do what all they ought to do within such a short time. But I do hope that Government will make efforts in course of time to enable these people to take their proper place along with other communities. I expect the Government to give more help to these classes of people. If they do not do that, I warn them that they will join the Congress side pretty soon."

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* The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM:—" Mr. Deputy President, Sir, I hope hon. Members will not expect me to reply to the points which they raised and which had no reference either to the demand now under discussion or to matters within my portfolio—particularly matters which have come up for discussion at some time or another during the last four or five days. Some were discussing about matters relating to land revenue, while others about the orders passed in the Pension department or the orders passed over a Revenue Inspector's appeal or a village munsif's dismissal and things of that sort which obviously it is impossible for me to reply to and to which I am not quite sure if the Hon. Members in charge of the various departments would be able to give an effective reply in view of the vague and generalizing remarks made by some Members as if the information which they have obviously been able to gather in the bazaars is much more reliable than the statement of definite facts and figures on which the Government or its subordinates had passed their orders.

" Sir, I will first deal with the few points on the question of labour and I shall go to the points raised in the demand itself. Dealing with Labour a specific reference was made both by way of interpellation this morning and during the course of the debate this day about the Paddison Hostel and the place where it is located, and it was remarked that this hostel was being retained in the present building, in spite of its supposed unhealthy conditions, to favour some private individual who happens to be the owner of the building. I only do wish that hon. Members were a little more sure of their facts before they made allegations of this type, obviously attacking the character of the officers of the department who have taken over the building. Regarding the unhealthy condition of the Paddison Hostel and the fact of the several inmates thereof being affected by tuberculosis, I might for the information of the House state that on an agitation started on this very same score about two years back, a thorough inspection of the hostel and all its inmates was made by Dr. Kesava Pai who, I believe, is the Tuberculosis expert in the city, and I, with the permission of the House, would just read a few extracts from his report to show what foundation there is for the allegation that the hostel is insanitary or unhealthy and that the food supplied to the boys in the hostel is not good. This is what he says:

'I had opportunities of inspecting the kitchen and food arrangements. The standard of food is certainly better than what the boys get at home and compares well with what the students get in other hostels in the city. Cooking left little to be desired.

Again he says:

'I might however make a suggestion which I consider to be of value regarding the diet. Though this suggestion is not intended for this hostel in particular, it is one which all hostels might take up in the interests of the good health of their boys and girls.'

Lastly, he says:

'To sum up, I consider that the alleged high prevalence of active tuberculosis among the boarders of the Paddison Hostel has no foundation in fact and that the incidence of disease amongst them need not cause any alarm. A

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thorough examination of all boys has revealed one case of active advance of tuberculosis now progressing well under treatment at the Tuberculosis Hospital and one earlier case that will progress well with ordinary hospital treatment with diet, open air and tonics. The rest of the boarders are in good general health and free from signs of active tuberculosis. The hygienic conditions of the hostel are satisfactory and beyond suggestions concerning food and cleanliness made in the report, no further precautions are indicated.'

"That is the report regarding the 'peculiarly unsuitable' nature of this building for the hostel. As regards the diet of ragi as part of the diet of the hostel, I may state that it is not used as the ordinary *kuzhoo* or *kanji*. It is more often used for tiffin in the afternoon or in the morning. I believe in many well-to-do houses ragi is being used even among the high class people. Certainly I am not able to see any objection to ragi being used as part of the diet on some days of the week in the Paddison Hostel.

"Regarding 'the meagre attention given to the amelioration of the scheduled classes,' as the resolution has been worded by the hon. Member, Mr. Muniswami Pillai, I need only invite the attention of hon. Members to the Communiqué which was issued some months back which is being reissued immediately about the work which has been done on behalf of the scheduled classes by the Government during the past several years.

"I do admit that during the last two or three years we have not 3-
been able to make provision for the benefit of the depressed classes on p
the same grand scale in which we had been able to do before 1930–31. But that is for obvious reasons. When there is a general reduction in revenue, expenditure in every department has perforce to be cut down, and unfortunately the scheduled classes department also had to be one of them. The hon. Member said that there had been no new schemes for the benefit of the depressed classes. May I ask him if it is not a new scheme for the Government to undertake to meet half the cost of acquiring house-sites whereas till now the depressed classes had to meet the full cost of such sites? Also subject to a maximum limit the Government are going to meet half the cost and ask the depressed classes people to pay only 50 per cent of the other half at once, the remaining amount being paid in equal instalments during a period of ten years. Is that not a departure from the policy which has been pursued till now? Various things like that are being done in other departments also. For instance, when the court awards an enhanced cost for a house-site which has been acquired for a person, the question as to how much the person for whose benefit the site was acquired should pay and to what extent he might be excused is under the consideration of the Government.

"I shall now come to the points which have been raised with reference to this demand. I am glad to find that there has after all been only one point and that raised by my hon. Friend, Mr. Arasu. That is his suggestion that one more of the Aides-de-Camp to His Excellency might be an Indian. I would point out that this is a matter which ought to be absolutely within the discretion of His Excellency.

He has to decide who shall be the officers who will be constantly attending on him. Already two of them are Indian officers; one of them is a permanent Aide-de-Camp and the other is an Honorary Aide-de-Camp. Therefore no question of racial discrimination arises at all. But as regards who should form the personnel who attend on His Excellency the Governor I should certainly deprecate any suggestion on our part to His Excellency in the choice of his officers.

"With regard to the other point raised by my hon. Friend as to why there should be a special provision of Rs. 25,000 for discretionary grants by Collectors in addition to the discretionary grant at the disposal of His Excellency the Governor, I would point out that this point had better be raised under Demand X. I might however state here that this is not a new departure at all. Before the days of depression there was a discretionary grant placed at the disposal of the Collectors which was reduced during the past few years as a measure of retrenchment. Now it is thought that it would be of advantage if each Collector had a small amount not exceeding Rs. 1,000 at his disposal for the purpose of carrying out works of public benefit immediately on certain occasions without being put to the necessity of going through the formality of applying for the previous sanction of the Government. That is how this year again that grant has been revived.

"I now come to the remarks of Mr. Shetty. He gave us a very elaborate lecture on the ethics of party government, how District Officers should be above party politics and so on. I am sure we are extremely grateful to him for that very learned discourse. At the same time I might assure him that unless he like his leader the Hon. the Leader of the Opposition thinks that the two Indian members of the Executive Council are also party-men, as far as the Reserved Half is concerned we have no parties whether the Reserved Half consists of Europeans or Indians. There was an assurance both from the Hon. the Leader of the House and from myself on our assumption of office that whatever we might have been in the past, whichever party we might have belonged to before and whichever party we might hereafter belong to when once we lay down our offices, for the time being while we are in office, we shall be above parties. I think we have always been above parties. I think my hon. Friend, Mr. Shetty did not have any particular case in his mind when he said that special instructions should be issued to District Officers to be above politics and not to take sides. (An hon. Member: Probably the recent events in South Kanara.) I do not think that there was any case of siding parties there. I hope I have tried to meet the points which were raised and which I have been in a position to meet under this Demand. With these remarks I would ask my hon. Friend, Mr. Arasu to withdraw his cut motion."

The cut motion was by leave withdrawn.

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND IX—LEGISLATIVE BODIES—RESERVED.

* The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu :—" Mr. Deputy President, Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor I beg to move—

> ' *that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs.* 10,34,000 *under Demand IX—Legislative Bodies—Reserved* '."

* Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder :—" Mr. Deputy President, Sir, I beg to move—

> ' *that the allotment of Rs.* 24,000 *for Provincial Legislative Council—Pay of Officers be reduced by Rs* 100 '.

" Sir, I wish to take up first of all the problem that will be facing us in the near future, namely, the coming elections to the Provincial Legislatures for which there is an allotment under this demand. We are not able to know definitely when the elections will be held. The other day the Hon. the Finance Member was pleased to say in reply to a question of mine on this subject that the preparation of the electoral rolls could be taken up only after the end of June, and that the elections might probably take place in the beginning of 1937. Sir, with regard to the preparation of the electoral rolls I request the Government to see that the rolls are as complete and accurate as possible and give no room for any complaint. In the past no uniform policy has been adopted with regard to this matter in all the districts. In some districts the rolls contained full information with regard to full name and address, place of residence of the voter and such other necessary particulars. Whereas in some other districts we found the names simply narrated without any details under the heading of the main village. In the latter case, we met with great difficulty in finding out who a particular elector actually was. We had to be at the mercy of the village officers to find out the individuals. This caused a great deal of difficulty when going out for canvassing and getting at the electors. At least in the elections under the new Reforms, I request the Government to see that that sort of difficulty is avoided. Speaking on a similar question with regard to elections to local boards I impressed on the Minister concerned the necessity of tackling this problem and I am glad that instructions have been issued for the preparation of electoral rolls with full information. In regard to the coming elections for the Provincial Legislatures also I would request the Government to see that a uniform policy is pursued in all the districts in the matter of the preparation of the electoral rolls, and that full information for knowing each particular voter is furnished in the electoral roll itself.

" Then, Sir, a certain procedure has to be gone through in the preparation of the rolls before they are made final and complete. I would ask the Government to remember what happened the other day with regard to the electoral roll for the local board elections in South Kanara which evoked a good deal of supplementary questions.

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We heard that as many as 48,000 or 50,000 claims were put in and admitted—this is indeed unsatisfactory that so many people should be left out at the outset. So, I wish the rolls for the Provincial Legislatures are prepared with sufficient care and attention as otherwise it is likely that an exorbitant number of claims will be preferred in every district. To avoid giving room for such sorry state of affairs I would request the Government to give clear instructions to the authorities concerned to prepare the rolls fully bringing in every elector to the list in the preliminary roll itself with as complete information as possible and leave no room for any complaint. If the rolls are prepared with full information and in a perfect form it will be very convenient for the candidates and even for the electors too. I should insist that first of all there should be wide publicity given at the time of the preparation of the preliminary roll itself. What generally happens is that at the time of the preparation of the preliminary roll the public do not at all know it and therefore when the preliminary roll is published and objections are invited very many people come to know of it and put in their claims and thus it gives room for good deal of additions and alterations. If the Government are careful enough even at the outset with regard to the preparation of the preliminary rolls and appraise the people by widely publishing full details about the qualifications of voters, how they are to enrol themselves and such other information, in the newspapers as well as by circulars to the villages, I think they can avoid good many complaints in this matter and find their way easy too. They should also be careful in the matter of providing polling stations adequately and within easy reach.

"Sir, in this connexion I would like to know from the Hon. the Finance Member when the elections are most probably to take place. Though he often-times said that he was not able to give any definite information on the subject, as far as he is concerned he may have some idea of it from the information he might have got from the Government of India or the Home Government. He can tell us when
m. they are likely to be held. I wish, Sir, that he gives us the information. Then, Sir, I shall pass on to some points which I wish to refer to under this demand. With regard to the admission of visitors, we have been following a certain method till now; though of late it does not very much inconvenience the Members of the House. I would suggest that we may adopt other easy methods which would much facilitate the admission of visitors. In our Reformed Legislatures when the Legislative Council and Assembly Chambers will be located out of the Fort premises, it will be quite easier to give effect to these methods. I may suggest, Sir, that the hon. Members of this House may be permitted to issue tickets to a certain number of visitors for each day by entrusting a ticket book to each of them and making them take full responsibility upon themselves for the admission of such visitors. For the President's gallery, it may be a rule that the permission of the President should be obtained. If such a method is adopted, it will be easy for the members to issue tickets to visitors

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whenever they like and it will also minimise much worry and scriptory work of the office. Unluckily we had an unhappy incident some time ago and that led us to the present involved procedure. I do not think that such an occurrence will repeat again and there will be any necessity to have the present stringent methods in the matter.

" Then, Sir, I wish to make a few observations with regard to travelling allowance rules. Of late we find that the rules have been amended in some directions. For Committee meetings at Ootacamund, Members are allowed daily allowance for a day in advance of the day of the meeting to be there in time. There is a peculiarity in it; when members are continuously staying there, it is stated that they are not eligible to draw daily allowance for a day in advance for the subsequent meetings they attend. The rule states that if the Member is at Ootacamund on the day previous to the date of a Committee meeting, he is entitled to daily allowance for that day. I do not know what is the logic behind it, to say that a Member is not entitled to get it, if he is continuously staying at Ootacamund, of course at considerable cost to him, when one who comes and goes back and again comes, is entitled for it. Properly speaking, I think the rule ought to be that, if a Member is at Ootacamund the previous day, he should be given travelling allowance for that day irrespective of his staying there continuously or goes and comes back. I wish the Government would examine this rule.

" Another matter which I wish to refer to is the appointment of Tamil Shorthand reporters for taking down Tamil speeches. I think it is necessary to have such men. Under the coming Reforms we will be having a good number of people who will address the Chair in Tamil; then we would require reporters who could report Tamil speeches. The question can be taken up on hand even now; some of our reporters may be trained to take down Tamil and Telugu speeches also. I wish to refer to some other points also; but I do not want to take up much of the time of the House as other hon. Members will be anxious to speak. I hope, Sir, that Government will look into the matters I have referred to, and remedy the defects."

* Mr. V. T. Arasu :—" Mr. Deputy President, Sir, I am in agreement with my hon. Friend, Mr. Nachiyappa Gounder, in the matter of pressing upon the Government the need for very great care being exercised in the preparation of the electoral rolls for the elections under the Reform scheme. It has been pointed out on the floor of this House on several occasions that the manner and the method adopted in the matter of holding elections to the local bodies in this Presidency and of the preparation of the electoral rolls are very perfunctory and unsatisfactory. It was pointed out how the authorities in charge of the preparation of the electoral rolls in certain districts permitted certain parties to put in large numbers of claims amounting to several thousands and include them all in the electoral

roll at the last moment. To get over this difficulty, it will be easier if the preliminary electoral roll is as perfect as possible. Government should move in this direction even now.

"I would seriously suggest for the consideration of the Hon. Member in charge of this subject, that from now onwards, Government should take upon themselves the duty of carrying on propaganda in the direction of educating people as to what qualifications are necessary for persons being included in the electoral roll. I would even suggest that they do broadcast handbills and pamphlets explaining to the people at large qualifications laid down in the Government of India Act which would entitle people to be included in the electoral roll. If that kind of propaganda is carried on even from now, people would themselves come to know whether they are qualified to be in the electoral roll or not; in the former case they will put forward their claims to be included in the electoral roll even before the preliminary roll is published instead of submitting their objections at the last moment after the preliminary roll has been published. (Interruption by Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu.) I hear the Hon. the Leader of the House remark that it is the duty of the politician and the parties concerned to do such propaganda and that is beyond the scope of the Government. I submit that it is the primary duty of the Government to carry on such a propaganda. I submit, Sir, that the Reforms which are going to be introduced have not been fully and properly understood by the people at large; at any rate until the first election under the revised scheme takes place, it is the duty of the Government to impress on the people as to what the implications of the new Government of India Act are, and as to what are the qualifications that will be necessary for people to be included in the electoral roll. To-day literacy is no qualification for being included in the electoral roll. Under the Reform scheme, persons who know to write their names or who can read and write are entitled to be enrolled as electors. Mr. Boag says it is not so, and that literacy means something more. When there is confusion even among ourselves as to what literacy means, I think it is all the more imperative that the Government should undertake upon themselves the duty of explaining to the people what the literacy qualification means, whether a person who knows merely to read and write is entitled to be included in the electoral roll or not. If that is done, I think the difficulties experienced by the authorities concerned in the preparation of electoral rolls will be minimised.

"In regard to the printing of the electoral rolls, I should like to make an appeal to the Hon. Member. That is, they should not print these electoral rolls in outside presses; they should print the entire electoral rolls in the Government Press itself. My objection to the printing of the electoral rolls in outside presses is due to the fact that by giving away this printing work to outside presses, we would be depriving the large number of temporary people who are working in the Government Press, of the benefit which they would ordinarily expect. There is a large number of piece-workers in the Government

Press now and I think they would only be too glad to work both night and day and earn an extra income as a result of the same, if Government should print all the electoral rolls in the Government Press. The objection that is usually raised against this proposal is this: 'it is impossible to print all the electoral rolls in the Government Press on account of the enormous work involved.' I would suggest therefore that the Government should start preparing the electoral rolls from now onwards. If that is done, the printing work can be carried on slowly from day to day and the need to print the rolls in outside presses will not arise. Another suggestion I have to make in regard to the printing of the electoral rolls is this: it should be printed on one side of the paper only and not on both sides of the paper as is being done now. If it is printed on both sides, it is impossible to cut the list into pieces and hand them to the agents in different places. If it is printed only on one side, it will be easier to cut the portion relating to a particular village and hand it over to the agent in charge of that village. This is an important suggestion which the Hon. Member should bear in mind.

"As regards the fixing of polling stations, considerable care should be exercised by Government. I strongly urge that no polling station should have more than 1,000 voters. (Voices: No, no.) I think it would be very reasonable to have one polling station for every one thousand voters. It would not be very difficult to record the votes of 1,000 voters in one polling station with three or four polling officers. Care should also be taken to see that no one polling station is more than 2 miles at the most from the residences of the electors. There should be at least one polling station within a radius of 2 miles. With regard to District Board elections, polling stations were fixed in places ranging from 10 to 12 miles from the villages where the electors were residing. That difficulty should be avoided as much as possible and there should be a polling station for a radius of 2 miles.

"As regards polling officers I do not think Government would be able to release the large number of officers that may be required, at one and the same time. I would therefore suggest that Government officials might be appointed as chief polling officers in the various polling stations and the large number of educated young men—Graduates—may be appointed as Assistant Polling Officers. They may be employed for a period of six months and they may be given the necessary training. If that is done, the difficulty of finding a large number of persons in Government offices to attend to this work all at the same time, can be overcome. It is suggested that if these unemployed young men are recruited on a temporary basis and appointed as assistant polling officers, they would bring to bear upon these elections their political prejudices. I submit that the assistant polling officers will not be in a position to vitiate the elections as they will be working under the chief polling officer who will be a Government official and who will be above party politics.

"There is one minor point to which reference has already been made by my Friend Mr. Nachiyappa Gounder, i.e., the appointment of vernacular reporters to the Legislative Council office. Ever since the Reformed Council was set up, at any rate from the year 1922 onwards, the question has been brought to the notice of the Government that one reporter at least should be appointed to take down vernacular speeches delivered in the Council by hon. Members; but every time the reply of the Government has been that the number of hon. Members coming forward to speak in Tamil or Telugu is not sufficient to warrant the appointment of a full-time vernacular reporter. Sir, I submit that whatever force that argument might have had in the past, in the future at any rate, under the Reforms scheme, we are bound to have a large number of gentlemen returned to the Council who can speak, and perhaps would prefer to speak only in Tamil or Telugu as the case may be. Another reason that has been advanced is that we are on the eve of the Reforms. And Reforms, Sir, are coming, and perhaps by this time next year the Reformed Council will be in full swing. At the same time I quite realize, Sir, that this problem is not so easy as it appears to be. Because, there is no regular or recognized system of shorthand either in Tamil or Telugu. Still, I suggest that if Government would offer a special studentship or scholarship to one of the reporters of the Council office to learn vernacular shorthand—say to begin with in Tamil—one or two of the present Council reporters may themselves come forward and learn Tamil reporting. That of course will take some time, but they are anyway bound to be ready and fit to discharge their work of vernacular reporting by the time the Reformed Council comes into existence. I suggest that steps be immediately taken in this direction."

* Mr. R. M. PALAT:—"Mr. Deputy President, Sir, I would like to say a few words about the date of the next elections. This has already been touched upon by Mr. Nachiyappa Gounder. I suggest that the earlier we have the elections the better it would be for all. This House has been charged with being unrepresentative, and it is also a fact that many members of the Council have become sick of this Council. A great many members do not take any interest in the proceedings; we have had many times to ring the bell even to get the quorum during these budget debates, which are so important. In these circumstances it is not right to lengthen the life of this Council till the next budget. Therefore, I would suggest that the date of the elections should be fixed as early as possible, if possible in November or December. I do not know, Sir, whether there is anything in the new constitution which would prevent two Councils existing at the same time if it should be decided that the present Council should continue till March; in that case a short Bill in Parliament, would surely remedy this position.

"Another point which Mr. Nachiyappa Gounder touched upon is about the travelling allowance of members. I am however speaking on another aspect of this. It so happens that Members of this Council

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who have to attend any of the Government Committees are entitled to only Rs. 6 a day while as Members of this Council they are entitled to Rs. 10 a day. It has been ruled, I think, by the Finance department or by the Accountant-General—I do not know by whom—that a member who happens to attend one of the Government Committees on a day, for which day he is entitled to Rs. 10 under the Legislative Council rules, should get only Rs. 6 on that day. I think it is most unfair that one who does some extra work on a Council sitting day and out of Council hours or on the day after the sitting should be mulcted of Rs. 4. I have already pointed out this difficulty to the Hon. the Finance Member, and I hope he will take steps to remedy the same."

* Mr. A. B. Shetty:—" Mr. Deputy President, Sir, the hon. Members who have preceded me have already dwelt upon the importance of a correct preparation of electoral rolls. The Government ought to take all possible care to see that electoral rolls are correctly prepared in view of the Reforms and the extension of franchise. I believe that in the first instance village officers furnish the list of voters. Those lists must be properly checked by the officers above them, like Revenue Inspectors, Tahsildars, etc., and well scrutinized by the election staff. If the preliminary rolls are full and correct, there will be little scope for additions and alterations later on. I hope Government will see that this work of preparation of electoral rolls is done in a thorough and proper manner, and that no room is given for corrupting the election staff.

" I would also like to draw attention to the proper distribution of polling stations. No voter should have to travel more than three or four miles from his village. At present, the arrangements in some places are defective. We find for instance in some places people have to walk as many as eight or ten miles to their polling station, though there may be a polling booth only four or five miles from their villages. Arrangements should be made to see that these polling stations are fixed in proper places and are distributed in such a way as to suit the convenience of all the voters.

" Next, I would like to deal with the facilities given to the Members of this Council in doing their work in this Council. Sir, if Members of this Council are to speak with knowledge and authority on any subject that may come before it, they must be in a position to get full and correct and up-to-date information. Our Administration Reports become at least a year or fifteen months old at the time of our Budget meetings, and we are not in a position to know what things have been done in the meantime in any department. I find that in some of the other Provincial Councils the heads of departments participate in the proceedings; they reply to the several points raised by the Members in the Council. In the United Provinces some time back the Inspector-General of Police undertook to furnish to the Members at the Budget time a statement of the latest figures relating to crime and detection work, so that Members could be in a position to know fully what has been

[Mr. A. B. Shetty] [17th March 1936

done in that department and they could speak and criticize the work of the department with the latest and most up-to-date information available.

" Sir, a properly equipped library is of great assistance to members in doing their work in this Council. Our Council Library is no doubt well stocked but I am afraid it is a library which is more meant for general reading and is not so helpful to the Members of the Council in doing their work. I should think that the Secretariat Library which has in it the reports of proceedings of the various Provincial Councils and of the Legislative Assembly, which keeps administration reports of the various Provincial Governments and of the India Government and which also contains reports of various committees and conferences, is more suited and more helpful to the Members of this Council than our own Council Library. Unfortunately, however, we are not able to get at the books there very easily. There is no open access system there, and there is no skilled librarian to attend to members who go there. I find that that library is hardly used by any of the Members. There they have got a large collection of general books and blue-books, but they are scarcely made use of. I do not see what the use of having a library is if it cannot be easily and conveniently used by anybody. Our Council Library is of course much better used; we have the open access system here, but this system has not been fnlly adopted. I find for instance in various shelves books are kept in two rows. It is not possible for Members to get at the hind row of books and to see what they contain. We must have in our Council Library more of ready reference books and more of bibliographical books. The books must be arranged according to subject-matter, and we must have analytic cataloguing with profuse cross references on subjects. And above all, we must have a well-educated, well-trained and adequate staff for the library. The librarian must know the contents of books. He must be able to act as the friend, philosopher and guide of every member who goes there. He must be able to look up the material in the books, if not also collect the materials in advance. Suppose the subject of unemployment comes up for discussion before the Council. If a Member goes to the library, the Librarian must be able to take him to a place where such books are kept, give him all the books on the subject, not only the books but also magazine, articles, newspaper cuttings, etc., and every information that may be helpful to the Member in dealing with the subject. I request the hon. Member in charge to see that all necessary facilities are given to the Members in the Library, to get the information they want regarding the various subjects that come up before this Council."

* Khan Bahadur MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB Bahadur:—" Sir, I want first of all to place before the Government the difficulties in connexion with elections. The difficulties begin in connexion with the preparation of voters' lists or electoral rolls. First of all, very little time is given to the preparing authority, the revenue officers. Only one or two months are given. Just at the nick of time, just a few

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months before the elections, the Revenue subordinates are asked to prepare them. The village officers send some lists which contain many mistakes; so much of corruption and so much of impersonation and all such things occur only because the voters' lists are not properly prepared in the first instance. In preparing these lists, the important point is that the voter's name should be clearly mentioned. That is to say, some distinguishing name must be added. What generally happens is this: the name is entered as 'Ramaswami—Krishnaswami.' It may mean that Ramaswami's son or nephew is Krishnaswami. In Malabar and South Kanara especially every man has got some distinguishing name, the name of the house or locality or some such thing. It is written there for example, as 'Kandurthi Raman', 'nephew of so and so.' There may be so many Krishnaswamis and so many Ramaswamis, and so it is impossible to know which Ramaswami or Krishnaswami is meant if it is simply stated as Ramaswami—Krishnaswami. That is why in these elections, some Ramaswami is brought up and made to vote. It is all the work of the village officer; if they say this is the man, then it is alright. I know several cases where persons who were not the real voters have been made to vote.

"Sir, all this is due to the insufficient time at the disposal of the authorities responsible for the preparation of the voters' lists. Of course it is not enough if sufficient time is given for the preparation of the lists, but it is also necessary to issue definite instructions to the officers preparing them that the lists should contain not only the names and father's names of the voters but also some other distinguishing names, as for instance surname or house name, etc., so that the voters can be identified definitely. 4-30 P.M.

"There is another point I wish to mention and that is, there is so much mischief played by polling officers. They are very often selected from offices in different departments and many of them are low-paid officers and clerks who may be amenable to temptation and are also capable of doing a lot of mischief. This aspect also should be taken into consideration by the Government in the selection of these officers. So long as they are doing this work, they must be under the control of the election officer who should be authorized to punish them by fining them or taking such other action as is necessary for such conduct on their part.

"Again, Sir, in regard to the qualifications for voters, it is stated that one of them is that they should be literate, but I do not know what the test for it is, whether it is the passing of any examination or simply knowing how to read and write. If it is so, who is to judge that the man is sufficiently literate to entitle him to be a voter? Or can a man be called literate if he is able only to sign his name? Or what else is the criterion? I want that these things also should be settled beforehand.

"Sir, now as the prospect is for the elections to take place early next year, I think there is sufficient time for the Government to instruct the authorities preparing the rolls to see that they are prepared in an

unobjectionable manner. I hope Government will take early steps to instruct the authorities responsible for the preparation of the rolls to see that they are prepared in the way suggested.

"I want to say also a few words about the difficulty of drawing travelling allowances. Generally, we leave Madras on the very day the sitting of the Council is over and if we are not given our travelling allowance immediately, we have necessarily to wait for another day. Sometimes we are given only the cheques and not cash. If we do not have cash in our purse, we are detained as there is no time for us to send the cheque to the bank and get it cashed. So, we cannot leave the place the same day but have to wait for another day, so that one day is wasted here on account of this. I would therefore suggest that instead of cheques, arrangements may be made to pay us in cash.

"There is also another difficulty regarding this matter, that is, in regard to the proper interpretation of the rules, because they may not have been carefully framed. For instance, if there is an interval of less than eight days between one meeting of the Council and another, it is said that Members cannot get either travelling or daily allowances for the interval. During the last meeting of the Council, it happened like this. The last day of the previous meeting was the 2nd instant and the present meeting began only on the 11th and so of course there was sufficient interval. But there was the Finance Committee meeting on the 10th and those members who are also members of the Finance Committee were not entitled, they say, to draw travelling allowance for the present meeting. That is what the Council Office told us. Not only that, even those who did not attend the Finance Committee meeting were not entitled, they say, although some of them were absent for more than 10 or 11 days before the present meeting began. Whatever that may be, Sir, the rule seems to have been made rather hastily and was not carefully drawn up. I hope Government will see to it that the rule is modified in such a manner that such difficulties do not occur in future.

"Coming to the question of the location of polling stations I think Government will do well to consult leading men of the locality and the likely candidates also about the location of these polling stations. For instance, there may be cases where there are big rivers between the polling station and the villages from where voters have to come and exercise their franchise at that particular polling station. If only the local people are consulted they will be in a position to advise the fixing of the polling stations at proper places and to the advantage of the voters concerned.

"There is another point I would like to mention in this connexion and that is the inconvenience that would be caused if the next elections and the next budget session happen to come together. I therefore urge on the Government to see that either the budget session is held earlier or the elections are held after the budget session is over. With these words I resume my seat."

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* Mrs. K. Alamelumangathayaramma :—" Mr. Deputy President, my object in speaking under this demand is that at present at least one Tamil shorthand reporter should be appointed in the Council Office. Both last year and in the year 1934, at the time of the discussion of the demands for grants, by means of cut motions I urged on the Government the necessity of setting apart some amount for this purpose. It is very necessary that a Tamil shorthand reporter should be appointed even from now, for there are at least four or five hon. Members in the Council speaking in Tamil and in the next Council there is likely to be a large number of members who know only Tamil coming in. Even though they may happen to know the English language they may not be able to speak in that language and if they are to be asked to give their speeches written in Tamil, it will of course be difficult on their part to do so. At present there are about ten reporters appointed for the purpose of reporting the proceedings of the Council in English, but so far as Tamil reporters are concerned, there is not even one at present.

" Even from another aspect of the question, I would like to lay stress on this. Tamil language is at present neglected by our people. Even at present there are a large number of voters who are entitled to exercise their franchise and they know only Tamil. Many of them would like to attend the Council as visitors to watch the proceedings and see how their representatives discharge their responsibilities to their constituencies and it will be a great advantage if vernacular reporting is encouraged so that the voters may be able to know what is happening here. Of course, Government may say that there are not many speakers in Tamil. The previous Finance Member, Sir Hopetoun Stokes, said last year that the question would be considered at the time of the next reforms. I think some twenty years ago, when Mr. B. V. Narasimha Ayyar, who was then a Member of this Council, wanted to speak in Tamil, it seems he was prevented from doing so, because many members did not give due recognition to it. Anyhow, only a few minutes were allowed to him. Things are quite different now. Moreover, Sir, the importance of the Tamil language was recognized even from the days of the Tamil Sangam and it is also stated that Tamil shorthand-writing was also in existence in those days. It can be asserted that it was in a flourishing condition over 5,000 years ago and that there were many valuable works in the language, dealing with important subjects. I may here point out that it is really pleasing to see that Government also have come to realize the importance of the language and have begun to encourage it. For instance, the Madras University seeing the importance and the potentiality of the language, appointed a committee called the Tamil Lexicon Committee who have been able to prepare a number of volumes and for this purpose they have granted large sums and I am glad to see that that work is now completed. When Government have seen the necessity of encouraging the language in such a manner, I do not think they will grudge a few rupees on account of the appointment of Tamil reporters.

"I am really glad that many hon. Members who preceded me have spoken in support of this motion and that many other hon. Members are sympathetic towards this question. Of course I do realize that time is not yet ripe when our proceedings could be conducted wholly in the vernacular and that it will take several years for that. Even the Hon. Sir Hopetoun Stokes thought that there would come a time when the whole proceedings of the Council would be conducted in the vernacular. Though, Sir, some hon. Members can understand the speeches made in English including myself, yet we could better express our ideas only in vernaculars. Further, if such encouragement is given to the vernacular, there will be better understanding between the Government and the people. That our mother-tongue should be encouraged, I am sure, nobody will gainsay. The importance of this language can very well be realized from the fact that languages like Latin, Greek, and French and other ancient languages took their origin from Tamil as revealed by the researches made by the late Mr. Manikka Nayakar, an Executive Engineer of this Presidency. The late Diwan Bahadur L. D. Swamikannu Pillai also agreed with this view and the language should be given the respect to which it is entitled. This language was given an impetus by not only our learned countrymen but also by some distinguished foreigners. Among them mention may be made of Mr. Winslow, Mr. G. U. Pope, Bishop Caldwell and others.

"I hope that in the coming Reforms the Government will appoint Tamil shorthand-writers. What I would suggest is that if they are appointed even from now, there will be time enough for them to prepare themselves for the work and equip themselves properly especially in view of the fact that the learning of this art takes some time. Of course in the Police department there are Tamil shorthand reporters, but they do not pay proper attention to improve their knowledge in this direction or get the necessary speed ability. What they do is that when a speaker delivers his speech, they do not take it in full but note down only the gist. I may also emphasise, that in these days when journalistic methods of publicity and the number of vernacular speakers have very far increased in importance, it is appropriate that the Government should encourage still more the reporting in vernaculars.

"There is yet another aspect of the matter on which I would like to lay some emphasis. For instance in England, shorthand is taught both for boys and girls even when they are young. If that practice is followed here in our country also, it will certainly create a taste in our young men for our language. If such schools are established in our country, many vernacular speakers will come into existence and they will take an interest in the Government of the country. I also understand that a new book on Tamil shorthand has also been recently brought out. My idea is not that people who know only Tamil should take up to the study of this art, but it would be a great advantage if students possessing S.S.L.C. and Intermediate qualifications also take up the study of Tamil shorthand because they will be in a better

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position to understand what is taking place in the Council. I hope Government will give every possible encouragement in this direction and will also appoint Tamil shorthand reporters soon."

* Mr. K. Koti Reddi :—" Mr. Deputy President, Sir, this being probably the last budget debate (the Hon. the Finance Member: No.) before the elections to the Reformed Council take place. (The Hon. the Finance Member: No.) Naturally we are all interested to see that proper arrangements are made for correctly preparing the electoral rolls and for holding elections. Having had some experience of these elections I hope the suggestions that I may make will be considered, though not favourably, at least with due attention. The one question that I have been urging for the last ten years is the desirability of making some arrangements for the secrecy of ballot for illiterate voters. The one answer that I have been getting generally is that though Government was in favour of it they considered it not practicable. Time has come when those questions ought to be very carefully considered and decided on merits. With reference to the complaint in this House many a time that the present system of election for illiterate voters is leading to corruption, there is one remedy, almost a certain remedy, for putting an end to corruption whether it is an election to the legislative body or local bodies, viz., devising a system of secrecy of voting for illiterate voters also. Because if the candidate knows that it is not possible to find out for whom he is voting the temptation to bribe is eliminated. That is one important consideration in favour of it. The other consideration is the influences that are brought upon the voters and the consequent difficulties that the voters are put to when influential or rich people interest themselves in elections. One way of getting rid of these difficulties of voters who may not like to vote for money or influence is again secrecy of voting. I want secrecy, desirable as it is, not so much for putting an end to corruption as for securing freedom of vote to the voters. There is a third consideration which is equally important and that is that political education will not be given either by the candidates or their agents or public bodies unless you introduce a system of secrecy of voting for the illiterates. To-day it is only one or two people in the villages that influence, if not dictate to the other voters. There is no temptation for the candidate to go and give political education because most of the voters are under the influence of a very few people. What is the good of giving political education to a man who has no freedom of vote? In order to get his help you are not tempted to go directly to the voter. We are at the beck and call of people who are the dictators of people in the villages. I therefore expect the Government to devise a system for guaranteeing secrecy at the elections even for illiterate voters. I consider it is so essential to develop proper political institutions. You are spending so much money in elections; and if you really are in favour of developing proper democratic institutions, it is not possible to do so unless you are in a position to guarantee freedom of voting by means of secrecy of ballot to illiterate voters, and the majority of voters

4-45 p.m.

are illiterate voters. I have once suggested distinct colours to be printed *against the names in the ballot paper and coloured box system* as I pointed out on previous occasions is liable to grave abuse. I do not want to go into details. I shall be quite glad to speak to the authorities concerned. *Probably if enough money could be spent*, some automatic system could be devised. But apart from that which would involve large expenditure, it is just possible to devise a system, cheap and simple, to maintain secrecy of voting for illiterate voters.

"The next thing to be considered is, arrangements for holding elections and the undesirable way in which electoral rolls are prepared. Officials no doubt issue instructions. But, as a matter of fact, usually for the Legislative Council elections the preparation of the rolls usually comes in March, just the time when the karnams who prepare the rolls are so much engaged in jamabandi work. The karnam, very often, draws a list from his own memory of voters and sends it up to Government. I know a number of karnams who have omitted a number of voters whom they do not like and who, they thought, might not be influenced by them. One took pride in saying 'because some voters were in favour of me, they were included and some who were suspected to be against me were not included.' If the Government direct the Collectors to warn the karnams on pain of punishment to prepare a correct roll as far as possible I think it will go a good deal in preparing a proper electoral roll. In this connexion I have to say something about the qualifications of electors to the Legislative Assembly. I do believe and it goes to the credit of this Government that so far as literacy qualification goes the recommendations of this Government have been more advanced than those of other Provincial Governments in this respect. If we go into the qualifications that have been laid down by the Constitution Act with regard to various legislatures, this Government is found to be more generous than the other Governments. Other Governments have laid fairly high literary qualifications. Some recommended S.S.L.C. and some others primary examination certificate and so on, whereas this Government has merely recommended literacy and it has been approved by the Parliament. If you leave these literary qualifications to the karnams or the village officials concerned, it is just possible they may only prepare a list of the literate voters according to their whims and fancies, according as it suits their convenience. Such of them whom they like they may include as literate and such of them whom they do not like they may omit as not being up to mark. I want Government to lay down as rigorous rules as possible. In this connexion, I may again want the Government to let us know in time what they are going to do with regard to applications that are necessary for entering literate voters as well as women voters who are the wives of ten-rupee pattadars. We have no knowledge of it. The karnams once prepared a list of literate voters and the wives of ten-rupee pattadars but subsequently they were omitted. If any rules are going to be prescribed, we ought to know soon what exactly the position is, whether voters themselves have to apply, whether anybody can apply

on behalf of them, whether political organizations can apply on their behalf. It is necessary that we should know this in time. I do not know when the elections are going to be held. According to the recommendations of the Hammond Committee there ought to be, and it is necessary that there should be, an interval of two months between the primary elections concerning scheduled communities, and the holding of final elections. It seems to me that the new Reformed Government may come into force in April and it may not be much earlier. I do not at any rate expect the new *Reformed Council* to function before 1st of April 1937, in which case I do believe that the most convenient month for holding final elections is February. February has an advantage which no other month in the year has. February is neither too hot nor too cold. It is just the month when you can tour about quite conveniently and do a lot of electioneering work. From the point of view of the voter it is also convenient. From my experience—I do not knew much of other districts—in the Ceded districts, there is not much work for the ryot."

At this stage the Council rose for the day.

D. K. V. RAGHAVA VARMA,
Acting Secretary to the Legislative Council.

Appendix I.

[Vide answer to question 968 asked by Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 17th March 1936, page 400 supra.]

STATEMENT I.

Number of secondary grade trained teachers recruited in the school department in the Madras Educational Subordinate Service in each of the branches of men and women in each year for the past five years including the year 1935.

Men's branch.		Women's branch.	
1931	21	1931	63
1932	23	1932	32
1933	28	1933	29
1934	24	1934	32
1935	32	1935	29
Total	128	Total	185

STATEMENT II.

Number according to community.

	Men's branch.					Women's branch.				
	1931.	1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1931.	1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.
Non-Brahmans	6	8	8	9	13	13	8	6	9	5
Muhammadans	3	3	3	6	3	..	3	2	2	1
Christians	..	1	3	3	4	41	16	18	15	20
Brahmans	12	11	14	6	11	9	5	3	6	3
Others	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
Total	21	23	28	24	32	63	32	29	32	29

STATEMENT III.

Number according to districts.

Districts.	Men's branch.					Women's branch.				
	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935
Ganjam	1	1	2	3	1	4	..	1	1	1
Vizagapatam	..	..	..	..	2	3	3	..	2	1
Godavari, East	1	..	6	1	1	3	1	..	1	2
Godavari, West	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Kistna	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	1	1	2
Guntur	..	2	..	..	6	..	..	..	..	..
Kurnool	..	..	..	1	..	4	8	1	..	..
Bellary	1	1	..	2	..	4	3	..	..	..
Anantapur	3	Nil.	1	1	3	2	1	..	..	1
Cuddapah	3	2	2	2	..	3	1	..	..	3
Nellore	..	..	..	..	..	4	1	..	1	..
North Arcot	1	1	..	1	1	11	2	5	1	8
Chittoot	2	..	5	2	2	..	..	1	1	..
Madras	2	..	..	3	2	6	5	3	5	7
Chingleput	..	1	..	..	1	1	2	2	1	..
South Arcot	1	2	4	1	1	1	..	1	1	..
Tan.ore	..	3	..	..	1	2	..	1	2	..
Trichinopoly	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	2	2	..
Madura	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	2	1
Salem	..	..	3	..	..	1	1	1	1	..
Ramnad	1	1	..	..	1	3	1	1	..	..
Tinnevelly	1	2	2	1	3	..	..	..	..	..
Coimbatore and the Nilgiris.	1	..	..	1	1	1	1	3	3	2
Malabar	3	2	3	5	5	4	1	3	4	1
South Kanara	..	2	..	..	..	1	1	1	3	..
Total	21	23	28	24	32	58 *	32	29	32	29

* Out of 63 teachers information available only for 58 teachers.

17th March 1936]

APPENDIX II.

[Vide answer to question No. 973 asked by S. M. K. Beyabani Sahib Bahadur at the meeting of the Legislative Council beld on the 17th March 1936, page 405 supra.]

G.O. No. 2040 I., dated 14th July 1930.

In accordance with a recommendation made by the Committee *appointed to review the conditions of irrigation in the* Ceded districts, the Government directed in paragraph 9 of G.O. No. 1973 I., dated 16th December 1926, that the Thokapalle project in Markapur taluk of Kurnool district should be investigated further. This investigation has now been completed. The project would be entirely dependent upon local rainfall, which is scanty and when local rains failed there would be no water in the tank. The result of gauging the amount of water available has been to demonstrate that in nine years out of 12 the supply of water would be inadequate. Secondly, the cost of the scheme is estimated at Rs. 21 lakhs, and the return on this expenditure, assuming a water-rate of Rs. 10 per acre, would be only $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent and even that percentage would only be obtained when the full possible ayacut was reached. But the calculations of supply show that this would happen only one year in four. A scheme for the irrigation of a smaller area was also examined, but it was found that the cost in proportion to the ayacut would be greater than that of the larger scheme. As the prospects of the scheme are in every respect so precarious, the Government accept the recommendation of the Board of Revenue and the Chief Engineer for Irrigation that the project should be finally abandoned.

(By Order of the Governor in Council)

A. G. LEACH,
Secretary to Government.

To the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.
,, Board of Revenue.
,, Collector of Kurnool.
,, Revenue Department.

THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF THE GOVERNOR OF MADRAS.

Wednesday, the 18th March 1936.

The House met at eleven of the clock, Mr. President (the Hon. Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI) in the Chair.

PRESENT:

Reddi Nayudu, *Kt.*, The Hon. Rai Bahadur Sir K. V.
Pannirselvam, The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T.
Souter, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., I.C.S., The Hon. Sir Charles.
Bracken, C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S., The Hon Mr. G. T. H.
Raja of Bobbili, The Hon. the.
Rajan, The Hon. Mr. P. T.
Kumaraswami Reddiyar, The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S.
Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur.
Ahmed Meeran Sahib Bahadur.
Alamelumangathayaramma, Mrs. K.
Annamalai Chettiyar, Mr S. A. A.
Appadurai Pillai, Diwan Bahadur A.
Arasu, Mr. V. T.
Basheer Ahmed Sayeed Sahib Bahadur.
Basu Dev, Mr. C.
Boag, C.I.E., I.C.S., Mr. G. T.
Dalavoi, Mr. R.
Devadasan, Mr. M.
Dharmalingam Pillai, Rao Sahib V.
Duraiswami Reddiyar, Mr. K. M.
Foulkes, Mr. G. F. F.
Gopalaswami Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur M.
Halasyam Ayyar, Mr. N.
Harischandrudu Nayudu, Mr. A.
Indrayya, Mr. C.
Iswaran Pillai, Mr. I. C.
Jagannatham, Mr. H. M.
Jayaram Nayudu, Rao Sahib C.
Jones, I.C.S., Mr. C. E.
Kesavaramamurti Nayudu, Mr. K.
Khalif-ul-lah Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur P.
Kolanda Reddi, Rai Sahib C.
Koti Reddi, Mr. K.
Krishnayya Choudari, Mr. P. V.
Krishnamurti, Rao Bahadur D.
Kumara Raja of Venkatagiri, The.
Kuppuswami Choudari, Mr. J.
Madanagopal Nayudu, Mr. R.
Manikkavelu Nayakar, Mr. M. A.
Moidoo Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur T. M.
Moses, Mr. P. C.
Muhammad Meera Ravuttar Bahadur, K. P. V. S.
Muniswami Pillai, Rao Sahib V. I.
Nachiyappa Gounder, Mr. K. A.
Nadimuthu Pillai, Mr. A. Pl. N. V.
Nanjappa Bahadur, Rao Bahadur Subadar-Major S. A.
Narasa Reddi, Mr. T.
Narayanan Nambiyar, Mr. V. P.
Natesa Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur C.
Palat, Mr. R. M.
Parthasarathi Ayyangar, Mr. C. R.
Patnaik Mahasayo, Sriman M. G.
Patro, K.C.I.E., Rao Bahadur Sir A. P.
Peddi Raju, Mr. P.
Pocker Sahib Bahadur, B.
Premayya, Mr. G. R.
Rajagopala Pillai, Mr. P. V.
Ramachandra Padayachi, Mr. P. K.
Ramakrishna Reddi, Mr. A.
Ramalingam Chettiyar, Diwan Bahadur T. A.
Ramalinga Reddi, Mr. C.
Ramamurti, Rao Sahib Pandit Ganala.
Raman Menon, Mr. K. P.
Ramaswami Ayyar, Mr. T. S.
Ramaswami Mudaliyar, Mr. V. M.
Rameswara Rao, Mr. G.
Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. A.
Ranganatham, Mr. N.
Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur C. S.
Ratnavelu Thevar, Mr. P.
Reid, Mr. D. M.
Rukmani Lakshmipathi, Mrs. A.
Russell, I.C.S., Mr. T. B.
Schamnad Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur Mahmud.
Scott Brown, I.C.S., Mr. W.
Sesha Reddi, Rao Bahadur B. P.
Shetty, Mr. A. B.
Simhachalam Pantulu, Mr. G.
Siva Raj, Rao Sahib N.
Sivasubrahmanya Ayyar, Mr. K. S.
Smith, Mr. J. M.
Soundara Pandian, Mr. W. P. A.
Sreshta, Mr. M. S.
Srinivasan, Diwan Bahadur R.
Sriramulu, Mr. G.
Subbarayan, Dr. P.
Subrahmanya Bhatt, Mr. U. C.
Sundara Rao Nayudu, Mr. T.
Syed Tajuddin Sahib Bahadur, Khan Sahib.
Thangal, Mr. P. M.
Thomas, Mr. Daniel.
Uzielli, C.I.E., I.C.S., Mr. H. R.
Vasudeva Pillai, Mr. V. G.
Venugopal Nayudu, Rao Bahadur R. K.
Wright, Sir William.
Yahya Ali Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur.
Yakub Hasan Sahib Bahadur.
Zamindar of Bodinayakkanur, The.
Zamindar of Kirlampudi, The.
Zamindar of Mirzapuram, The.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS

Electricity

Charges for production and supply of electricity by the Madras Electric Supply Corporation, Limited.

* 976 *Q.*—Diwan Bahadur R. SRINIVASAN: Will the Hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) what the working cost (excluding capital charges) per unit of electricity incurred by the Madras Electric Supply Corporation was for the past five years;

(*b*) what charges are paid to the Corporation per unit of electricity supplied by it to Government buildings;

(*c*) whether the Corporation has submitted a two-part tariff for the approval of Government and, if so, whether it will be placed on the table;

(*d*) whether the existing rates for supply have been authorized only up to 1st July 1936 and whether they will be revised for the future; and

(*e*) whether the existing rate for domestic supply on combined circuit of lights and fans is the same as the rate in force prior to 1919?

A.—(*a*) The working costs (excluding capital charges) per unit of energy incurred by the Madras Electric Supply Corporation, Limited, for the last five years for which accounts are available are as follows:—

Year.	Working costs per unit.
1930	1·249 anna
1931	1·117 ,,
1932	0·944 ,,
1933	0·999 ,,
1934	0·891 ,,

(*b*) A flat rate of $3\frac{1}{2}$ annas per unit.

(*c*) No. It is understood, however, that the Corporation has issued a revised tariff for which approval of Government is not necessary.

(*d*) The existing rates in respect of the following items only have been authorized up to 1st July 1936:—

(1) Lights,

(2) lights and fans and other power-consuming devices upon a combined circuit, and

(3) small power consumers.

As regards revision, attention is invited to the answer to clause (*c*) of the question.

(*e*) Yes.

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Diwan Bahadur R. SRINIVASAN:—"Will the Government consider the desirability of appointing an advisory board to go into the whole question with a view to seeing how the company is working?"

The Hon. Sir K. V. REDDI NAYUDU:—"I am afraid, Sir, it is rather a large matter. It will be difficult to appoint a committee to go into the working of the company unless it is found that the affairs are bad."

Secretariat

Rules of recruitment for the Secretariat Establishment.

* 977 *Q.*—Mr. M. DEVADASAN: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that there are separate rules for the appointment of clerks in the Secretariat;

(*b*) if so, what the necessity for the same is;

(*c*) whether clerks or superintendents of the Secretariat are transferred to other departments; and

(*d*) whether clerks, superintendents or managers of other offices are transferred to the Secretariat?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Government considered it administratively desirable to separate the clerical establishment of the Secretariat from other clerical establishments in the Presidency and to constitute them into a separate service called the Madras Secretariat Service. The idea was to recruit to the Secretariat candidates with qualifications higher than those that are prescribed for the Madras Ministerial Service.

(*c*) Yes, occasionally.

(*d*) Yes, occasionally but for special reasons.

Mr. M. DEVADASAN:—"I find in the answer, Sir, that candidates with higher qualifications are appointed for the Secretariat Service. May I know whether it is not a fact that men of similar qualifications are also employed in the Madras Ministerial Service?"

The Hon. Sir CHARLES SOUTER:—"I have no doubt that they are, Sir."

Mr. M. DEVADASAN:—"Will not such a system create an invidious distinction between the Secretariat Service and the Ministerial Service?"

The Hon. Sir CHARLES SOUTER:—"We have not so far found it so, Sir."

Diwan Bahadur M. GOPALASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"Have the Government considered the desirability of recruiting officers for the Secretariat from the mufassal?"

The Hon. Sir CHARLES SOUTER:—"If the hon. Member will look at the answer to clauses (*c*) and (*d*), he will find that it is done, Sir."

Local Self-Government

Representation regarding Mallur Panchayat Board, Salem.

* 978 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the report of the President, District Board, Salem, in the matter of alleged difficulties and hardships caused to certain residents of Mallur Panchayat Board in Salem district about which representations have been made to the Government has been received by the Government;

(*b*) if so, when and on which date the matter was referred to the President, District Board, Salem, either for remarks or for report;

(*c*) whether a copy of the said remarks or report will be placed on the table;

(*d*) whether final orders have been passed in the matter and, if so, whether a copy of it will be placed on the table; and

(*e*) if the matter is still pending, what the reasons are for the delay, and when the petition was originally submitted to the Government?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The matter was referred to the President, District Board, Salem, for remarks on 20th December 1934 and his report sent through the Collector was received by the Government on 22nd April 1935.

(*c*) The Government do not consider that any useful purpose will be served by placing the report on the Table. All the papers were transferred to the Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards for disposal.

(*d*) & (*e*) The Inspector has issued two notices, one against the President, Panchayat Board, asking him to explain his conduct and to show cause why he should not be removed from the office of the President and the other to the Panchayat Board and the Salem District Board asking them to show cause why the former Board should not be superseded for one year. Final orders have not yet been passed by the Inspector. The original petition was received on 17th December 1934. The delay is due to protracted correspondence with the local bodies and the holding of inquiries by the President, District Board, and the Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards.

Interpretation of G.O. No. 3395, L. & M., dated 20th August 1935, in regard to its applicability to pandits entertained prior to 1926.

* 979 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Director of Public Instruction has been addressed either by the executive authorities of the district boards and municipalities or by the pandits themselves or their associations in

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the matter of interpretation of G.O. No. 3395, L. & M., dated 20th August 1935, in the case of pandits employed in high schools under those bodies and who were entertained prior to 1926 and exempted from the prescribed qualifications;

(b) if so, what directions he issued and whether a copy of the same will be placed on the Council table; and

(c) what the Government have done or propose to do in the matter?

A.—Attention is invited to G.O. No. 621, L. & M., dated 15th January 1936, which was placed on the Table in reply to question No. 941 answered on 13th March 1936.

Pay prescribed for the combined post of drawing and drill instructors employed in schools under the district boards.

* 980 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether any scale of pay has been fixed for persons holding the combined post of drawing-drill master in middle schools and secondary schools under the district boards, and if so, what it is;

(b) if not, what the scale of pay allowed to them now is;

(c) whether any representations have been received in this behalf and if so, from whom and what they are; and

(d) whether orders have been passed in the matter and if so, whether a copy of it will be placed on the table?

A.—(a) & (b).—No general orders fixing a scale of pay for combined instructors' posts as such have been issued; but persons holding the combined posts have been allowed only the pay fixed for one of the two subjects, viz., Rs. 30—2/2—50 in the case of those who have undergone training in the Y.M.C.A. College of Physical education; Rs. 25—2/2—45 in the case of others.

(c) Yes; from the President, District Board, Kurnool, and from combined instructors in secondary schools under the Kistna District Board. In the former case the President, District Board, recommended the grant of a higher pay and the combined instructors also memoralized for the grant of a higher scale of pay.

(d) Copies [a] of G.Os. No. 3464, L. & M., dated the 27th August 1935, and No. 698, L. & M., dated the 20th February 1936, are placed on the table.

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—"With regard to the persons holding the combined posts of drawing and drill instructors, is it not necessary that in view of the double qualification and the extra work they are attending to they should have a special scale of pay?"

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"I think the scales of pay allowed in such cases have been fixed after consideration of those facts."

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a Printed as Appendix on page 541 infra.

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—"The Director of Public Instruction says: 'This system, though educationally unsound, has been allowed to continue more as a transitional measure in the interest of the management.' So somehow this system is continued. Anyhow, will the Government consider the question of doing justice to this class of people?"

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"The Director considers that in the interests of the management it should be continued. I do not think that persons who are doing both the duties are really working for a longer period every day than others."

Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI:—"Is it a fact that persons doing the combined duties of drawing and drill instructors are allowed to work only in the middle schools and not in the high schools?"

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"I am not in a position to give exact information."

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—"The fact is that they are allowed to work as instructors in these subjects. Is it not then necessary that some consideration should be bestowed with regard to this aspect of the question?"

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"In cases where work is not sufficiently heavy for two people being appointed, one combined instructor is appointed."

Agriculture

The Aduthurai Experimental Farm.

* 981 Q.—Mr. V. NADIMUTHU PILLAI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) (1) what is the extent of lands, wet and dry, in the Aduthurai Experimental Farm under the management of the Government and what will be the probable kist for the same;

(2) what is the actual income obtained and the expenditure incurred, excluding the salaries of officers;

(3) what is the average yield and outturn of paddy per acre in the wet lands; and

(4) what is the net profit excluding the Government kist; and

(b) (1) from the results of research in paddy, which is the best variety suitable for this district (Tanjore) that would yield a fair outturn;

(2) whether the farm has got a sufficient supply of seeds to meet the demands of the ryots of Tanjore district;

(3) if the answer is in the negative, what is the reason for the same; and

(4) what was the average yield per acre before the construction of the Mettur dam and what is the present yield?

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A.—The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the report on the Aduthurai Station contained in the Agricultural Station Reports for 1934–35 (which is available for reference in the Council Library). The Government has no further information than that embodied in this report. The Director of Agriculture is being asked to send all the information available with him.

[*Note*.—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

II.—BUDGET FOR 1936–37—VOTING OF DEMANDS FOR GRANTS—cont.

DEMAND IX—LEGISLATIVE BODIES—RESERVED—*cont*.

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—" The House will now resume consideration of Demand IX—Legislative Bodies—Reserved."

* Mr. K. KOTI REDDI:—" Speaking yesterday, Sir, on the convenient month for the holding of elections under the Reformed Councils, I was saying that the month of February is neither too hot nor too cold for election purposes. Besides that in most parts of the Presidency, by that time the harvest will be over. I know for certain that in the Ceded districts, in the black-cotton soil tracts, the season closes by the end of February though in certain wet soil parts the harvest may not be fully over. But anyway, on the whole by the end of February or early in March, the ryots will be free from harvest and other important works. If the Government see no other reason except that they should have the elections much earlier, I think February seems to be the best month for holding the elections. Then there are no rains, no floods, and there is no other inconvenience. I understand that the new Reformed Constitution will not come into effect much earlier than the 1st of April 1937. If so, I think the latter part of February or the early part of March would be the best time. There will thus be the usual interval of a month or so after the elections and before the new Reformed Council comes into being.

" Next, coming to the question of arrangements for holding the elections, I have a few suggestions to make. The first thing I urge on the Government is that they should see that the distance for the voters to travel from their villages to the polling stations ought not to be very great. If there is to-day one item of expenditure which is not strictly allowed by rules but which I am bound to say is practically incurred by every candidate, it is the expenditure incurred for paying the cart-hire or the motor-hire for the voters to come to the polling stations. Just like the sub-registrar's mamul, this has grown into a mamul and every voter expects to be fed and to be paid for for his travelling charges. If the Government really want the candidates to be honest and sincere and speak the truth in submitting their returns to the Government, they must try to see that no voter is made

to walk for more than the ordinary distance a man is expected to walk, that is, about two or three miles at the most; and the larger the number of polling stations that you are in a position to give, the less will be the expenditure to the candidates and the voters. Practically every large village, would, in future contain a large number of voters, and I would put it between 200 and 250, or 300, and all the expenditure for feeding and travelling charges will be considerably reduced if not completely put an end to, if a polling station is located at every such village. (Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari: 'Have you paid like that?') My story will be told to you personally, and it is not for the consumption of the House.

"The next thing I want to urge on the attention of the Government is about the number of voters to be allowed for each polling station. My hon. Friend, Mr. Arasu, told us yesterday that you can have a thousand voters for each polling station. It is physically impossible to record, even with the least trouble you can expect from all sources, more than 350 to 400 voters. But ordinarily, if the chances of one candidate securing voters are very few as against another, any number of objections are raised to the voters voting in favour of one as against the other. All sorts of excuses and all sorts of objections are raised just to see that a particular set of voters are not allowed to cast their votes. This again depends on the amount of care with which the electoral roll is prepared. If the roll is properly and correctly prepared, the identity of the voters cannot be questioned, and the number of votes that can be recorded will be certainly more. At any rate, I put it at not more than 250 to 300 voters for each polling station. Then, there is another thing to which I want to draw the attention of the Government, viz., police bandobast. Where, to serve a large number of voters, the polling stations are located at a distance of five miles, instead of having one polling station for that distance if you have two, the distance will be lessened by half. Instead of that, what is being done is that two booths are located in one big headquarters village to which all the voters from a distance of five miles are made to walk. The better arrangement will be to have a polling booth at one end of an area and another at the other end of the area. One argument advanced by the officials against this is that if you are going to have separate polling booths there is difficulty in making arrangements for police bandobast and that the number of police constables is not enough. On the other hand, if you are going to locate more than one polling booth in one headquarters village and if you distribute the constables between them, if trouble arises at one place, the constables at the other polling booth may be called immediately for help. Otherwise, there is trouble. I do not consider it to be a proper remedy. I will illustrate it by what happened in the Cuddapah district at the notorious Kallur polling station where polling boxes were removed and burnt and polling officers were assaulted. It all took place so very quickly that there was no time to call for police assistance from the other booth. So, I think it is not necessary for the purpose of police bandobast that you should locate at one place as

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many polling booths as possible. However, on that account I do not see why the public should be put to this great inconvenience of unnecessarily walking a long distance to the polling booth. The real remedy is again the secrecy of voting for illiterate voters. If the secrecy of voting in the case of illiterate voters is secured, the necessity for police bandobast also will naturally be minimized. It is within the knowledge of the Hon. Members of this House that any trouble that arises at the polling stations creating the need for police assistance, is due to the fact that the candidate or his agent tries to get at the voter somehow, dragging the voter from one place to another and inducing him to take his meals in his camp rather than in that of another, and that is how trouble arises. If as I have been submitting to this House we ensure secrecy of voting, this temptation to attract one voter as against another and to try all sorts of means to get at the votes will cease. Yesterday I forgot to mention or rather I had no time to mention, about one method which ultimately seems to me a very inexpensive one besides being very simple also for introducing secrecy of voting for illiterate voters. I want to suggest that ballot papers may be like small pieces of cards like railway tickets, and these tickets to be of various colours representing the candidates and they have to be put in by voters into opaque envelopes within the screened booths and handed over to the polling officer. (Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt: 'Why not photographs?') It may be very expensive. You can put in the polling booth a number of opaque envelopes on one side and then a number of cards on the other side, of various colours, each colour representing a particular candidate. When the voter goes inside the booth he takes the card, one, two or three that he wants, puts them in the opaque envelope and pastes it and comes out and hands it to the polling officer. This will be very simple. If you consider these cards expensive, you can arrange for their being used in different elections. Fortunately for us Mr. Tottenham has shown us the way as to how one envelope can be used again and again by way of economy. So, that system can be adopted here too. 11-15 a.m.

"I once more lay great emphasis on the preparation of correct electoral rolls, and the rules to be issued by the Government ought to be free from ambiguities. Even to-day literate voters violate secrecy in voting. A number of them openly declare for whom they are voting; because either they receive money or they want to show that they have voted for a particular candidate, though there are rules prohibiting it unless the voter happens to be illiterate or of real physical impossibility. Sometimes a voter wraps a piece of cloth round his fingers and says he can't mark; sometimes he says 'I have not brought my spectacles' and by these excuses he violates the secrecy of voting. I hope the Government will issue strict rules in this matter. In preparing the electoral roll it may be ordered to show whether a particular voter is literate or not; and the literates mentioned in the roll ought not to be allowed to vote openly. That could be easily done. It also saves trouble and time to the polling officer by avoiding going into the question then and there.

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" There is one other point on which I wish to lay special stress. I very often feel that the time given for the budget session, for the voting on demands, is very inadequate. Year after year, we see nearly half the budget demands go without discussion. I do hope that Government do not feel that the budget discussion in this Council is not of much use. If there is any use in it they should extend the time. In this connexion I want to suggest a change; it is altogether new, but I believe Government will devote some attention for considering it on its merits. I have always felt that we should at least have two months or a month and a half for the discussion of budget demands and for the consideration of important Bills at one stretch. Whatever you may say against lawyers, I think it is very desirable that you should attract a very decent proportion of lawyer-members into this Council. They have got large experience of men and matters and will be certainly of very great use in the legislature. In the future legislature, when the number of members will be larger, it seems to me that the time allotted for business in Council will be insufficient and the only way to attract a number of people, who otherwise cannot spare time, is to see that the budget discussions are taken up at times convenient to them. I would suggest the change of the financial year from 1st April-31st March to 1st July-30th June—that is what is done in Mysore and I believe in Travancore also. So you can have your budget sessions some time in April or May. No doubt they are hot months, but that is the time when Members can command more leisure, and lawyers particularly because the courts will be closed then. They would certainly find it convenient to devote their full time for this purpose. Even the ryot Members can afford more time then to attend the Council. Besides that, I feel that instead of having a full day for discussion, if you have half a day it will be much better and give more time to the Members to prepare their subjects and Government also can have more time to study their subjects and give their replies. So if you were to have more days for budget discussion and if the discussion is limited to half a day only it will be very convenient to have the long session in April or May only.

" In this connexion, I want to impress on the Government the necessity of cooling arrangements for the new Parliament House. It will be possible then, for a number of people who probably are not accustomed to hot weather as I am, to attend, and do work even in summer. So I suggest that cooling arrangements may be introduced in the new Parliament building. I expect that in the arrangements that are to be made in future this point will be considered.

" Then, Sir, attention has been drawn to the necessity of having vernacular reporters. I feel that Government should take necessary and urgent steps in this direction and that encouragement must be given to the reporters to learn shorthand in the various vernaculars. Reference was made only with regard to Tamil reporters. There will come a time when there will be many speakers in the various vernaculars. So arrangement should be made for the reporting of speeches in Tamil, Telugu, Malayalam and Kanarese. I believe in Madura

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and Vellore, vernacular shorthand is being taught. So there won't be much difficulty in the matter of vernacular speeches in the Council being reported, if sufficient facilities are given for learning it.

"Another point is, under the new Reforms I don't see why the present Members of the Executive Council, even including European Members, should not have a chance of contesting the elections. Their experience will be very useful in this Council, if not as Ministers at least as Members—I have no objection to their becoming Ministers also. Even Members of the Executive Council may be allowed to contest the elections and arrangements may be made for it. It is desirable they are made to retire one or two months earlier or resign their posts and give place to others before they contest the elections. It seems to me a reasonable proposition. They are not to use their influence as Members of the Executive Council for election purposes.

"Since some members touched on the subject of travelling allowance I may also be permitted to say one thing, because I have personal knowledge of it. Though I do not complain about it, it seems rather an anomaly, and Government probably may change the rule in that respect. It is this. Even to-day when we come here to attend the session, and on a holiday, if we go to headquarters you get either the travelling allowance or the first-class railway fare whichever is less. That is quite fair. But when we go beyond the headquarters we don't get it. Last year when the Council was sitting I went out on a holiday, a Sunday, beyond my headquarters to attend a meeting of the Famine Committee and returned on the next working day and both ways I was not allowed travelling allowance. I do not see why. This is an anomaly which has to be rectified.

"Lastly, I impress on the Government the necessity of preparing the electoral rolls correctly which will save a lot of time to the candidates, agents, and polling officers, and also the urgent necessity of secrecy of ballot for illiterate voters and the opening of as many polling stations as possible. Where there are not enough officers to take up this responsible work, I may throw out one suggestion. Instead of having elections on one day you can have them in two days. Instead of having the election in one portion of the district one day and in another portion the next day, you can as well have two adjoining polling stations, the first day at one polling station, the second day at the next station, so that you can transfer the officers from the one to the other easily. This seems to be necessary in the interests of the public and in the interest of putting down corruption in the elections."

* The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu:—"Mr. President, Sir, the criticisms advanced by hon. Members may be divided into two classes, one affecting the existing conditions in the Legislative Council, and the other to which a large portion of the criticism has been directed, concerning the coming elections. As you are aware, Mr. President, my Hon. Friend and Colleague, the Finance Member, is in charge of Reforms and, with your permission, I would request him to answer that portion which relates to the coming elections, and content myself with answering questions relating to the existing Council and the

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present conditions. Fortunately for me, Sir, criticism so far as the existing Council is concerned, is not very much, though there are some important points. Naturally hon. Members are thinking of the future and the impending elections, and possibly either because they are generous in forgetting any inconvenience that might have occurred in this Council, or because it is closing very soon, the criticism has been rather meagre.

1-30 a.m. "There are four points raised so far as the existing Council is concerned. The first of these raised by my hon. Friend opposite, Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder, is that the admission tickets issued by you, Sir, to the visitors have not been adequately sufficient and some inconvenience would seem to have been felt by some Members in getting admission to their friends. I should be very sorry if anything of that kind should have happened; but I believe, so far as I know,—and I think I know all that could be known in the matter—the Hon. the President and his Secretary have been always very obliging and there must have been very few cases in which hon. Members must have found it difficult to get admission tickets to their friends. It has been suggested by another hon. Member that possibly, if books containing permits, or tickets books as they are called, are given to hon. Members, they could themselves issue tickets to their friends. Well, Sir, all that I can say on the point is that such a system does not exist anywhere in any of the Parliaments I am acquainted with. In the second place, it is just possible that on an important occasion hon. Members might give all their tickets to their friends without knowing the number of tickets every one might have issued with the result perhaps the number might reach a colossal figure and our galleries might not hold them. Anyway, I take it, Sir, that the complaint is not serious—I believe in urgent cases the Hon. President has been pleased to relax the rules—and it does not need immediate attention. At any rate we are coming to a close very soon. One year more and we are finished. During this one year I am perfectly certain that there will be no inconvenience on this ground.

"The next point that has been raised is about the travelling allowance bills. It was said that the travelling allowance rules are rather rigid. I remember an occasion in which the travelling allowance of my hon. Friend opposite was directly concerned. It would appear that he was in Ootacamund in connexion with a committee meeting. The committee met and adjourned and the hon. Member stayed on as he happened to be on some other committees too: I believe he will be on all committees. (Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder. 'No.') His importance is such and I admit and that is to his credit. As I was saying, he stayed on at Ootacamund throughout the whole period. As hon. Members are aware, the rule is that if a Member remains in a place he would be entitled either to draw travelling allowance or daily allowance of Rs. 10 a day whichever is less. In this particular case, the hon. Member drew, I believe, his travelling allowance. (Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder: 'My travelling allowance question has been

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settled.') I am just explaining how the case arose. Then the Legislative Council office agreed to pay daily allowance only for the day previous to the first sitting. Hon. Members are aware that when they are on committees and meet at Ootacamund Rs. 10 a day is allowed to them not merely for the day on which the work commences but also for the previous day. (Voices: 'No no.') I am correct. Only one day's allowance was allowed to him and his case was that he should have been allowed for the day previous to each of the subsequent meetings. Naturally the office interpreted the rule to me. The rule is somewhat to this effect, viz., that if a Member comes to attend a meeting he is paid not only on that date but on the date of arrival if that date is one day previous to the meeting. As the hon. Member remained in the same place throughout the whole period for the three meetings, they could not give allowance for the day previous to that on which each of those meetings were held. Of course my hon. Friend admitted that the rules were strictly interpreted, only his point is that there is not much logic in it. That is the word he used. After all, it is only a matter of one day and I think this is the only case in which any such complaint has been received. If, however, hon. Members feel that there is really any grievance in the matter and if there are other questions of this kind, I shall be very glad to have the questions examined.

"The next point raised about these travelling allowance bills is the one suggested by my hon. Friend, Mr. Schamnad. He said that the issue of cheques is no good, that it means the delay of one day for cashing the same because the cheques issued in the evening could be cashed only the next morning and that this entailed Members from the mufassal remaining in Madras for one day for this purpose. I do not think that many Members have felt this difficulty. If, however, other hon. Members also think that there is any such difficulty, I think some arrangement will have to be made in those particnlar cases. That also will be examined.

"Then there was a suggestion made to the effect that a sort of imprest should be left with the Secretary, Legislative Council, and that he should pay these moneys before the check is carried on by the Accountant-General's office. Well, Sir, that is a bit difficult. The audit rules are so very strict and the permission of even the Auditor-General may have to be obtained to make these changes. Anyway, the Finance Department has pointed out several difficulties. I do not propose to read all of them to you, but shall read one or two. 'The contention that there is delay in making payments is not borne out by figures. Any procedure dispensing with pre-audit now will necessarily have to be continued after the Reforms when there will be two Houses and more than double the existing number of members. Consequently the imprest required will be very high and it will be imposing responsibility on the Secretary of the Legislative Council for the safe custody of large sums. It would also mean double accounting which would take up a lot of time both of the Legislative Council office and possibly of the Accountant-General's office.' I would therefore submit, Sir, that it may not be possible to agree to this imprest suggestion. But, as

I have already stated, if there is any practical difficulty felt by any hon. Member, I assure him that the Legislative Council office will attend immediately to the comforts and conveniences of the Members of this House.

" Now, Mr. President, I shall proceed to the third point raised, viz., that certain facilities are not available to the Members of this House. Most of these complaints have reference to the inadequacy of provision in the library. It was suggested that enough books are not available there, that the librarian is not such a trained officer who could pick out any document or passage in a book which any hon. Member might require, that certain reports available in the Secretariat library are not available in the Council library and that even the cataloguing in the library is not satisfactory. I admit, Sir, that some of these criticisms are correct, but one point I must mention and that is that the Secretariat library also is available to the Members of this House. If only they take the trouble of going into that office they would get all the help that they require from that librarian. (Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar: ' But can we take out books?') I am afraid, not. But the hon. Members can sit in the library and make use of the books. There are plenty of books there and there is also every convenience. (Voices: ' When? ') For some hours after the Council meeting is over and for some hours before the Council meets. (Voices: ' No, no.') Well, arrangements can be made if hon. Members are so anxious to read those books. There will be no difficulty. On occasions I have myself felt that we ought to have better arrangements than we have at present and I am perfectly certain that in the coming Councils the future Ministers will certainly take the matter up. In the meanwhile if there is anything that we can do, we shall certainly be glad to do.

" I next come to the point raised by my lady friend, Mrs. Alamelumangathayaramma, and supported by other Members, viz., that we should have vernacular shorthand reporters. I may at once say that I am in entire agreement with her. I think the time has arrived when we must be prepared to furnish this Council with shorthand reporters who are capable of taking down vernacular speeches verbatim. At present there is not much difficulty as after all there are only five members for speaking in Tamil and only one Member for speaking in Telugu (Mr. V. T. Arasu: ' There are nine Members.') I have statistics before me which go to show that only five Members including Mr. P. C. Muthu Chettiyar speak in the vernaculars. Whatever it may be, when the new Council comes into existence under the new dispensation, it is almost certain that there will be more Members to speak in the vernaculars. That thing must be recognized and attempts will be made even from now to see if it is possible to obtain trained men; and if trained men are not available, to see if the necessary training can be given. I may, however, warn the House that this is not an easy job. I gather from a report that an attempt was made, I believe in 1921, to get a Tamil stenographer who was also proficient in English shorthand, but that was not very successful. However, that need not stand in our way. We shall do our best to secure competent persons.

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" Sir, that closes practically all that has been said against the disabilities of the existing Council. As regards the rest, as I have already mentioned, it is all to be answered by my hon. Colleague. About the time allotted for budget discussion being too short, I think the hon. Member who said this was referring to the future Council. (A voice: 'To this Council also'), and perhaps from the experience gained in this Council he said that more time might be allowed in future in the new Council. I have nothing more to add. You will permit me, Sir, to thank hon. Members of this House for the very moderate and reasonable criticisms they have levelled against this department." 11-45 a.m.

* The Hon. Mr. G. T. H. Bracken:—" Sir, most of the discussion yesterday and to-day revolved on the subject of Reforms and new elections—subjects with which I am concerned and within the short time at my disposal I propose to give as much information as I can to the Members of the House. As regards the date of the introduction of Reforms, hon. Members are aware that Parliament has not yet decided whether the financial condition of the Centre and the Provinces justifies the inauguration of Part III of the Act. I believe Sir Otto Niemeyer has now completed his enquiry and I presume his report will be laid before the Parliament ere long and that Parliament will in due course come to their conclusion on this subject. So it is not possible for me to give any definite date at present, but as a provisional working basis, we are assuming that the new constitution may be inaugurated in April 1937. On this provisional basis we are attempting to work out some sort of programme for the elections. Electoral qualifications depend to some extent on two dates, viz., 31st March for assessment or the payment of a certain tax and 30th June, i.e., the end of the fasli year mainly for registration of pattadars, occupancy ryots and so on. It follows therefore that we cannot publish our preliminary rolls until after 30th June and probably a month's time will be required for that. After that there are various stages which have to be gone through such as the receiving of claims and objections, the publication of the final rolls, primary election for the scheduled classes and in one way or another a good deal of time will be consumed. And there is also the possibility that in that period there may be some sort of a budget to be passed by this House. These matters have not yet been settled, but clearly something will have to be done to provide some money on the date of the inauguration of the new constitution and in the interval before the new legislature can vote the required money. As I say, these arrangements have not yet been settled. However, I do not think it will be possible to have the elections before the end of January 1937 and taking all things into consideration the Government are inclined to think that probably about the middle of February will be the most convenient date as suggested by the hon. Member from Cuddapah. As the House is aware, we have taken already some steps in regard to the preparation of the rolls. Some rough preliminary rolls were prepared for the use of the Delimitation Committee. Apart from the use for that purpose, this work served the useful purpose of showing the defects in the existing rolls and the defects in the registers.

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When we came to check the results we found a very large number of omissions owing to the incomplete nature of the revenue registers. That defect we are endeavouring to put right and further preliminary rolls have now been prepared under the supervision, wherever necessary, of a special staff, containing those electors who will come in by the payment of tax or assessment to tax or holding of lands. These preliminary rolls have been more or less completed and are now being printed. Of course they will require some revision and bringing up to date up to 31st March with regard to one class of voters and 30th June with regard to another class of voters. Then, further lists of voters will have to be prepared for those who are able to come on the rolls on account of literacy qualification. That matter will be taken up as early as possible. But at present we cannot proceed very much further until the draft order in Council which we are expecting any day relating to the Report of the Hammond Committee and the electoral arrangements generally is published. Meanwhile we have been preparing rough draft rules to such matters which may not be covered by the Orders in Council and Draft Circulars and this work is in a fairly advanced stage, as far advanced as it is possible until we know the terms of the Orders in Council. This work has thrown a very great deal of responsibility and hard work on the Law Secretary, Mr. Boag, who is on the eve of departure to England on leave and I wish to pay a tribute to the work he has done as Secretary of the Delimitation Committee and in this preparatory work and I hope the House will agree with me in paying this tribute to him.

"Other matters under consideration are the constitution of the Assembly and the Council Secretariat and the rules of procedure and Standing Orders of the new Assembly. A great amount of work has to be done with regard to these things and here again we must wait and see the Orders in Council.

"That, Sir, covers most of the points raised by hon. Members, but I would just deal with a few other individual points raised. Mr. Nachiyappa Gounder suggested an uniformity of procedure and instructions to Collectors and that is being done. We want the rolls to be prepared as well as possible, and as there is plenty of time to bring them up to date, we hope the rolls will be better than the rolls which have been prepared in the past. Mr. Arasu raised the point about propaganda to educate public opinion and give information to the public as to what they have to do to get their names on the rolls. The information will be published on this subject as soon as the draft orders in Council have been approved by Parliament. Mr. Arasu suggested that all printing should be done in the Government Press. I agree that as far as possible all printing should be done there, but in regard to final rolls, with such pressure of work the Government Press cannot do it all and outside presses must inevitably be employed to some extent. He raised further the point of establishing polling stations within a radius of two miles. I am afraid that proposal is not practicable on account of the difficulty of securing proper polling officers. It is most important that the polling officers should be responsible

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persons and above suspicion. Hon. Members of this House will agree with me that if we have so many polling stations, there will not be enough supervising officers to go round and check the work of the polling officers. It appears to the Government that it would be better if they have polling stations with a five miles radius and employ a chief polling officer and as many assistant polling officers as may be necessary working under his supervision to carry out the polling duties. I think if we have responsible polling officers at the head, the danger of abuse will be considerably lessened.

"Mr. Koti Reddi laid great stress on the question of secret ballot and the difficulty about the illiterate voters. That is a very real difficulty and has engaged the attention of this Government and the Hammond Committee. It is very difficult to evolve a satisfactory arrangement but I believe in Bombay the coloured box system is working fairly satisfactorily. However, on this matter, the Order-in-Council may have some instructions.

"I do not think Mr. Koti Reddi's suggestion about putting voting papers in envelopes will work at all. I am afraid that system would be open to great possibilities of mischief and gravest abuses if voters are allowed to seal up these envelopes outside the polling booths under the influence of the agents of different parties. I am afraid that system will not do at all. My time is up and I think I have covered most of the important matters which have been raised here. 1:
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"One other point was raised with regard to the budget discussion. That will be for the future Government to decide but I may throw out a suggestion that in future budget discussions the various parties should agree on the important amendments and have those discussed leaving aside unimportant matters. That will facilitate the course of procedure and lead to real debate on real issues."

The cut motion [a] was, by leave, withdrawn.

The main Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND X—SECRETARIAT AND HEADQUARTERS ESTABLISHMENTS—DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION AND MISCELLANEOUS—RESERVED.

* The Hon. Sir CHARLES SOUTER:—"Mr. President, Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I move that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 2,24,99,800 under Demand X—Secretariat and Headquarters Establishments—District Administration and Miscellaneous—Reserved."

Mrs. A. RUKMANI LAKSHMIPATHI:—"I beg to move that the allotment of Rs. 28,900 for Secretariat and Headquarters Establishments—Chief Secretariat—Pay of Officers be reduced by Rs. 100. My object is to criticise the repressive policy of the Government. In criticising the repressive policy of the Government I do not want hon. Members to go away with the idea or the belief that I do so in a bit of bombast

[a] To reduce the allotment of Rs. 24,000 for Provincial Legislative Council—Pay of Officers by Rs. 100 (to discuss policy).

or bravado spirit. I do so, because I believe that India to-day is smarting very badly under the policy of repression now followed by the Provincial or by the Imperial Government. Though there may not be so much of repression in this Province as in Bengal and though it may not be in such an intensified form as in Bengal, it cannot be denied that the Government, whether Provincial or Imperial, has been following a uniform policy of repression with a motive to put down the lawful aspirations of a whole nation, of an entire people. In fact, Sir, India to-day has a repressive system of Government. This attitude is, I dare say, due to the fact that the purpose of the Government is to put down in particular the lawful activities of the Congress and suppress and harass it. Mr. President, Sir, the purpose of this Government is to harass and suppress the activities of an organization which undoubtedly is the single political organization representing the wishes of the nation. I do say that without fear of contradiction, even though hon. Members on the opposite side may say that the Congress does not represent the nation because they are outside the Congress and therefore the Congress cannot appropriate to itself the claim to represent the whole nation. Of course I have heard Mr. Patnaik very often telling me that he also belongs to the Congress. I very much doubt how far he represents the Congress because he does not advocate the same ideals and follow the same policy and programme as the Congress advocates. Sir, instead of trying to repress the Congress and incarcerate those agitators in the country and put them down as being dangerous to society, instead of sitting so complacently on the Treasury Benches with full satisfaction that they have done their duty, the Government might as well try to follow a conciliatory policy and pacify the people and satisfy their demands in a proper manner. Sir, they look upon Indians with a feeling of distrust and suspicion. In fact, Sir, if you look at the Constitution Act you will find that the whole Act has been based on suspicion and distrust."

* The Hon. Sir CHARLES SOUTER :—" On a point of personal explanation, Mr. President. I should say that that is not my attitude at all."

Mrs. A. RUKMANI LAKSHMIPATHI :—" May I request the Hon. Member to be a bit louder? I cannot hear him."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The Hon. Member says that that is not his attitude at all."

Mrs. A. RUKMANI LAKSHMIPATHI :—" It may not be his attitude, but it is the attitude of the British Government which he represents. The Hon. the Revenue Member may be very candid but he does not count in the scheme of things.

" Sir, I wish to point out to the Government that the whole system of administration should be based on trust and love. There must be mutual confidence between the Government and the governed. We are absolutely fed up with this policy of the Government, a policy of distrust and suspicion under which many persons are suspected, classed

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as agitators and incarcerated as being dangerous to society. That is the policy which this Government has been following. Mr. President, Sir, repression is not the solvent for the ills of a foreign Government. As I have already pointed out, the only method by which they can conciliate the people and produce contentment is to satisfy the lawful aspirations of the people and not put them down as they are doing at present. The last civil disobedience movement that was carried on in 1930 and again in 1932 was undertaken with a view to press for the claims of India which had been put forward for over 50 years. The Government take credit that they have succeeded in crushing the Congress by their repressive methods, but I should tell them that they may for the time being subdue the flesh by putting the whole set of agitators who are well-meaning Congressmen in prison, incarcerate them and torture them and do whatever they please; but the spirit is undying and they can never repress it. I should, Sir, on this occasion point out that we have not very much of repression in the Madras Presidency, though we have more of it in Bengal. Anyhow, I should like to bring to the notice of the House a few instances of repression, particularly in the matter of suppressing vernacular literature in the Andhra Desa. I refer to the proscription of books like the Telugu translation of Maxim Gorky's Mother while the original in English is allowed to be circulated freely. Again, Sir, there are very many instances of proscription of innocuous Telugu translations of such books like the Bardoli Campaign and the Neethi Saramu and such other books. I may also refer to Mr. M. S. Subrahmanya Ayyar's books which have been proscribed. He is a most voluminous and versatile writer in Tamil and his books are all published in small pamphlets; they are very useful reading and such books ought to be welcomed and encouraged by the people. But most of his publications are suppressed and proscribed.

" Then again, Sir, I should also like to draw the attention of the House, if I may be permitted to do so, to the vagaries of the police for which there is no end. Just one instance of the vagaries of the police would suffice to bring home to the House how they have been tormenting and harassing the public. The police officers are supposed to safeguard and protect the people; they are supposed to stand up for the safety of the people. Instead of so doing his duty by the people, a police officer by name Mustaf Ali Khan who is a notorious police official and whose name has become a byword in Godavari . . ."

* The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM:—" As far as Mustaf Ali Khan's case is concerned, Mr. President, may I point out that it has no doubt reached a final stage in one court but it is likely that he may prefer an appeal. It is not right that any hon. Member should refer to a case which is practically *sub judice*. I would rather that the matter is not discussed now because it would not be fair to either party."

Mrs. A. RUKMANI LAKSHMIPATHI:—" I am sorry I do not know whether this Police officer is going to appeal to the High Court against 12-1[?] p.m.

the decision of the Sessions Judge. I just want to bring this matter to the notice of the House; I do not think the matter is *sub judice*, because he has not preferred his appeal to the High Court . . ."

* The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM :—" The appeal was some time back under contemplation and it might be that he has appealed. I do not put it on a mere technical ground. The matter is still pending. The hon. the lady Member will be fair enough to see that she will not be doing the right thing between the parties, to discuss about it now, when there is a possibility of the matter coming up before a court of law."

Mrs. A. RUKMANI LAKSHMIPATHI :—" The matter has not yet been referred to the High Court; therefore this House has got every right to discuss about it here. I cite the case of Mustaf Ali Khan who tormented the people in the Vadapalli rioting case; I also cite the instance of the same man ill-treating Dr. Subrahmanyam. I wish to invite the attention of the House to the fact that the attitude and conduct of that particular official was most undesirable. He is still kept in service. The Sessions Judge ordered that he must pay damages to Dr. Subrahmanyam; still the Police officer is kept in service. I should like to ask the Government what action they have taken in the matter, whether they are going to allow that man to continue in service or whether they are going to take disciplinary action against him and dispense with his services. I can cite ever so many instances of police oppression recently, in Tinnevelly, Tuticorin and in several other places in the south; in Panruti, Pattukkottai, etc., photos of national leaders are being seized and confiscated. Then again, it must be fresh in our memory, the way in which *Dinamani* and *Kistna Patrika* were asked to furnish securities and the way in which those securities were forfeited. . . ."

* The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM :—" This matter will be relevant to Demand No. XIV which deals with Police. This Demand deals with General Administration which refers more to the Revenue Department."

Mrs. A. RUKMANI LAKSHMIPATHI :—" May I also hear the Hon. Member? "

* The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM :—" Any matter referring to the Police administration will be more appropriate under Demand No. XIV which I will have the honour of moving later. The hon. the lady Member will be more relevant if these remarks are made when that Demand is under consideration."

Mrs. A. RUKMANI LAKSHMIPATHI :—" I do not know if I am to be disturbed like this. I will close with only one question. I should like to ask the European Members sitting on the Treasury Benches and those European Secretaries who are adorning the back benches the question whether in their own country they would tolerate this manner

fight against every sort of restriction of not being allowed to speak, of not being able to give vent to their feelings; I would just ask them this question whether at any time they would tolerate such a policy of repression in their own country, because the English nation is a freedom-loving nation and whether they would not, in good spirit, allow the same liberty of writing and freedom of speech to Indians."

* The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM:—" Sir, I should reply to this debate in view of the fact that the repressive policy of the Government and police zoolum have been touched upon. As far as the repressive policy of the Government is concerned, I must be very thankful to the hon. lady Member—without mentioning any specific instances, she merely indulged in generalizations—for having paid the best compliment possible both to the administration and to the people of this province. If she had any concrete instance of the repressive policy of the Government, I am sure the hon. Member would have mentioned it. The very fact that she did not mention any, shows that she has none. . . ."

MRS. A. RUKMANI LAKSHMIPATHI:—" On a matter of personal explanation, Sir. I gave a concrete instance of the repressive policy of the Government."

* The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM:—" She gave a concrete instance which took place about six years ago. As far as the security demanded from newspapers is concerned, I may assure hon. Members that every case that comes up for security being demanded, is scrutinized with the greatest possible care; unless there are statements therein which are positively seditious or are likely to create communal hatred between the various sections of the people of the province—except under those two conditions—no security is ever demanded. I may assure this House that the most generous interpretations are placed on the publications and except when we feel that the limit has been clearly transgressed and except when we are advised by our legal advisers that there is a case for action being taken, no action is being taken at all. The very fact that the number of cases in which security has been demanded and security has been forfeited is very small, is itself a proof that we are not following a repressive policy. Even in cases where there is open transgression, if there is an indication on the part of the Editor or the Publisher of the paper that there has been a change of heart on his part and if he tenders an apology, the security demanded is cancelled. I cannot conceive of a more conciliatory policy in the carrying of the administration of the province.

" As regards the Police zoolum which the hon. Member referred to, I would much rather not refer to it at once because the matter is really still *sub judice*. The Police officer concerned no doubt has had a verdict against him given by the District Judge. He has applied for leave to appeal and he has been permitted to appeal at his own cost.

There is the possibility of the matter coming up in appeal and I think it is not right for us to discuss the merits of the case at this stage. The time allowed for appeal. . . ."

Mrs. A. RUKMANI LAKSHMIPATHI :—" The hon. Member is speaking of possibilities; the matter is not *sub judice* now."

* The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM :—" It is not right for us now to prejudice the case of either the one party or the other. I do not stand on so much technicality as the hon. lady Member but it is better not to refer to it now. This is one other instance where the best compliment can be paid to the Police department. If the hon. Member has to go back six years to find one instance of what she terms police zoolum—and if during the last six years she has not been able to get another instance, it shows how very efficiently and satisfactorily the Police department has been working for the betterment of the people and for the welfare of the public."

Mrs. A. RUKMANI LAKSHMIPATHI :—" I should like to point out that the judgment in the case was delivered only three months ago."

* The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM :—" That does not bring the date of the incident any the nearer."

The cut motion was put and lost.

Mr. G. R. PREMAYYA :—" Mr. President, Sir, I beg to move the cut motion standing in my name :—

'To reduce the allotment of Rs. 28,900 for Secretariat and Headquarters Establishments—Chief Secretariat—Pay of Officers by Rs. 100.'

My object is to criticize the general administration of the Madras Government. The Collector of every district is the District Officer from whom all the correspondence goes out. Collectors are very busy; they cannot look into all the matters connected with lands that are to be assigned to the depressed class people. So, they have to depend upon the reports of their subordinates. Some time ago lands were freely assigned to depressed classes; afterwards the Government changed the policy If the land is paying and if it is proposed to assign that land to the depressed classes, the assignee has to pay the market value of the land. The market value has first to be fixed by the karnam; it must then be approved by the Revenue Inspector, then by the Tahsildar; finally it comes to the Collector who informs the Revenue Board for final decision. As I said, the Collector depends upon the report of his subordinates. Difficulty is felt by depressed class people on account of this fact; many of the depressed class people are coolies; they usually and actually cultivate all lands, even darkhast lands; if a piece of such land is proposed to be given to a member of the depressed classes, it will be opposed by the caste ryots. Generally a high rate is fixed to the land which is proposed to be assigned to a depressed class member; this high rate is sent up by the Revenue Inspector upwards; from the Tahsildar the matter goes up to the

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Collector and the Collector confirms the rate. I speak with much personal knowledge in the matter. The land costing Rs. 150 will be assigned to a member of the depressed class for 300; he takes the land and begins to cultivate it; then he finds it difficult to pay the instalment in the course of 15 or 20 years. Such lands have been assigned to the depressed classes. Several acres have been granted when the prices 12-30 p.m. were high. Now the prices have gone down, and it is very difficult for these poor people to pay the instalments. No doubt the Government have made certain rules under which they say the instalments may be increased; but they are not prepared to cut down the amount. As a matter of fact, a member who takes the land would like to finish off the instalments, say, within ten years; but if the number of instalments is increased, the only result will be that he will have to go on paying instalments indefinitely. Why should not a portion of the amount be cut down, I ask, especially when we hear so much nowadays about the indebtedness of the ryots? The ryot in Tanjore cries aloud, the ryot in Godavari also talks aloud, but the depressed class ryot is not crying loud enough to be heard by the Hon. the Revenue Member.

"Again, Sir, on one occasion when lands were assigned by the District Collector, I had to see him in person; he wanted me to go along with him to see a certain lanka land We went into a field, and he said: 'Oh my goodness, this is the richest land here; how can I give the land to the depressed classes?' I do not know what he meant by that. Are we destined to be granted only the poorest of lands, saline soil or sandy soil, as I said yesterday? Rich or poor, if the Government want to grant land to a member of the depressed classes, it must be granted without making any difference between caste ryot and member of depressed classes. After all, the land is given only on condition that he must pay the rent just like any other kind of ryot; then why make this distinction when it comes to a question of granting land to a depressed class member?

"There is also another difficulty experienced. The Collector generally allows the depressed class members to disafforest certain areas and then keeps quiet for a number of years allowing them to cultivate the land; finally, when it is found that the land is profitable, he comes and says that it must be sold by public auction. Mr. President, Sir, you know perfectly well the condition of the Vovveru forest, near Buchireddipalem, Nellore district. It was disafforested by the depressed class ryots themselves some years ago, without taking even a pie of Government money. Afterwards the Collector said that it must be sold by public auction, because it was fetching a good price. After all the trouble taken by the depressed class ryots is not taken into account. I hear that it was assigned to those people at market value. Even so, I think it was a mistake committed by the Government: because the Government asked the depressed class ryots to disafforest the land; they did so and brought the land to a productive state. But for the Government afterwards to come and say that it must be sold by public

auction—I don't know what to call the Government, I do not want to invent a word. And this is the kind of work done by the Collectors who are supposed to be the agents of Government in the districts. In another case, one Collector said: 'Well, Mr. Premayya, we want coolies; if all your people become ryots, where are we to get our coolies from? Supposing I go on camp, I take some people with me to work for me; and if the depressed class people become ryots; how are we to get our coolies?' That is the kind of sympathy shown by these Collectors. (A voice: Who is he?) I do not want to mention his name, because I was forbidden to say it. All I can say is that he was an European. It was said on some occasion that 'if you want to reach a white man, you must go through his stomach'—that is, by feeding him."

The Hon. Sir CHARLES SOUTER:—"Sir, I have not been approached by my stomach yet."

Mr. G. R. PREMAYYA:—"I did not catch the hon. Member, Sir."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The Hon. the Revenue Member asserts that he has never been approached by his stomach."

Mr. G. R. PREMAYYA:—"Yesterday he wanted to have the pleasure of my company at the tea he gave us. I gave him the pleasure and so I approached him through his stomach."

The Hon. Sir CHARLES SOUTER:—"Sir, I may say I approached others through their stomachs."

* Mr. G. R. PREMAYYA:—"I shall refer to one more point and finish. I do not know how these Collectors get their information; they do not consult the ryots, nor the M.L.Cs. Whenever they want to report something about the crops or other situation in the district, very often they misrepresent; they write something that is not the case. Sir, such things have been criticized on the floor of this House on previous occasions, and I do not want to say anything more about these Collectors. I only want them to be sane and to behave like human beings. On one occasion, a Collector passed judgment in a certain case. It seems a depressed class member was shoed by a Kamma man and the Collector said that shoeing a depressed class member is not wrong. Such are the Collectors. Such unsympathetic Collectors are no good. The sooner they are sent out to England, the better for our country. With these remarks, Sir, I move my cut motion."

Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI:—"Mr. President, Sir, I just want to bring to the notice of the Hon. the Revenue Member a few difficulties of the ryots, for immediate action and rectification.

"In the Revenue Department, the jamabandi is generally held at taluk headquarters. All the village officers in the taluk have to gather there, and the people in the villages have also to go to the taluk headquarters if they want to make any representations to the jamabandi officer. I suggest that if the jamabandi officer camps in every firka, we will be avoiding a lot of expense for the ryots who have to go long

distances for making representations. If this suggestion is adopted, the Government won't lose much money; the jamabandi officer will get his travelling allowance whether he is in the taluk headquarters or in the firka. Even now, if the period of camp exceeds ten days, he so arranges his programme that on some pretext or other he goes to his headquarters or to some other place, in order to get himself entitled to travelling allowance. This is not a costly thing to the Government, and at the same time there is scope for the ryots to make representations easily to the jamabandi officer. Apart from this, the several village officers who have now to go long distances along with their records for inspection, need not take all that trouble and can save the bus charges or the railway fare. The jamabandi officer generally comes with two or three clerks who get fixed travelling allowance. Nowadays there is also sufficient accommodation available in each firka; we have got travellers' bungalows and other buildings available. Some officers also have their own tents which can be fixed at the firka headquarters.

" Again, Sir, village officers are very frequently asked to go to the taluk office by the Deputy Tahsildars and Tahsildars through summonses; but as no travelling allowance is paid to them, the higher authorities are not able to find out how many times these village officers are being summoned by the Tahsildars and Deputy Tahsildars. If travelling allowance is paid to every village officer whenever he is summoned to the taulk office, there is a chance of knowing the number of times the tahsildar desires the village officers to go to his office. These village officers are paid Rs. 12 per mensem and if they are to go to the taluk office three or four times in the month, they have to spend their salary on their transit charges. I suggest that these village officers must not be summoned frequently to the taluk office; and if they have to attend, they must be paid travelling allowance. Some time back, the village officers were given even second-class fares in certain cases; but if they are given even third-class fares, they will he quite satisfied; or even bus fares and transit charges will do. I suggest, Sir, that such transit charges may be paid to them whenever they go to the taluk office on official duty.

" Another matter to which I want to draw attention is that whenever they have to send remittances, these village officers send them through their vettis. These poor vettis however do not get any travelling allowance or hatta. Sometimes they have to stay for a day or two at the taluk headquarters. These menials get about Rs. 7 a month and they have to carry remittances at least three or four times a month. In some cases the distance to be travelled is 30 or 40 miles, and if there is any theft on the way, the poor village officer who is sitting at home is held responsible for the money. Fortunately, these menial servants, though they are very poorly paid, are honest men. The Government, whenever they have to send a few thousand rupees

from a treasury to the Imperial Bank, have a lot of Police bandobust; but in the case of remittances from village officers, amounting at times even to Rs. 10,000 or Rs. 20,000, no such police bandobust is given. These honest men are carrying the money; why should not the Govern-
-45 ment pay at least batta to these poor people in such cases? If anything
.m. happens, the responsibility is of course on the village munsif who will be at the time in his house. To avoid such things, I would like to make a concrete suggestion, namely, that wherever there is a Deputy Tahsildar's office attached to a treasury, the remittances from these village officers may be received and those amounts may be sent the next day to the taluk office with sufficient bandobust and without any extra cost, because every day some peon or other person from the Deputy Tahsildar's office will be going to the taluk office with some remittance or on some other business. As such the Government need not incur any extra cost by adopting this suggestion. It will also give some sort of relief to the poor village officers, as they need not travel long distances carrying big amounts. I hope the Hon. the Revenue Member who is always sympathetic will give due consideration to this suggestion of mine.

"I would here like to point out that, unfortunately, the village officers and karnams quarrel among themselves in respect of their respective duties. Though the village munsif is supposed to be the headman of the village, he does not possess any control over the other officers so much so, very often clashes arise. Though in the Village Officers Manual it is stated that the village headman is responsible, yet at the same time, he has no control over the others in order to see that they execute their duties properly. So, in order to avoid such conflicts among the village officers, I suggest that Government should make clear what the duties of the respective officers are and what control should be exercised by the headman over the others. If the duties are clearly specified, the officers will know their respective duties and there will not be any unnecessary clash.

"Another matter in regard to the land revenue administration in the villages is this. There are a number of persons enjoying the lands under a particular patta. This creates a lot of difficulty in the matter of the collection of kist. There are cases in which a particular ryot may have to go to the village munsif several times for paying the kist, for there may be ten or twenty small pattas in his name and there is the likelihood of mistakes creeping in. I would therefore suggest that both in the interests of the collection of kist as well as in the interests of the ryots, all the miscellaneous pattas might be brought together under one patta. It will also facilitate the village munsif to know how much is due from a particular ryot in respect of all his lands.

"Now, Sir, in regard to joint pattas, I would suggest that they should not be allowed to continue as they are. For instance, though the patta is in the name of one person, there may be several others

enjoying the property and if the village officer likes and if he is not on good terms with the ryot concerned, simply because the patta is in his name, he may try to collect the whole amount due under the patta from that person. To avoid such difficulties, it would be convenient if the pattas are subdivided as early as possible and even the ryots would not grudge the payment of a certain fee, say Re. 1 for this purpose, if it is found necessary to meet the cost. As a result of the zoolum of these village officers, in such cases, the ryots lose much more than what they would have to pay if they are to bear the cost of subdivisions themselves. I therefore urge on the Government the desirability of subdividing joint pattas as quickly as possible.

" I would like to say a word in regard to kistbandi. Here, I would like the introduction of the system of issuing demand notices as is done in the case of municipalities in the matter of collection of their dues. Even under the land revenue system when properties are attached, they issue demand notices to the parties concerned. Even in other cases if a demand notice is issued to the patta-holders indicating the amount they have to pay and the date by which it should be paid, it will be a great convenience to them . . ."

The Hon. Sir CHARLES SOUTER:—" Before the hon. Member goes into further details on this question, I would like to know who is going to issue the demand notice? "

Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI:—" The karnam will prepare the demand notices and entrust them to the village munsif who will distribute them to the various patta-holders and also put up a copy in some prominent place to enable them to know what amount is due from them and before what date it should be paid. This will serve as a sort of reminder to the villagers. Sometimes the ryots have to wait for the arrival of the karnam to know from him what amount is due in respect of kist and also for the settlement of claims. The munsif very often may not be in a position to know what amount is due from a particular person, especially in cases where there are many persons enjoying several lands included in one patta and it is only the karnam that is expected to know these things. This will avoid the delay that may be caused in the settlement of such claims.

" Another suggestion I want to place before the House is this. We have got so many departments under Government but there is no department to detect crimes and corruption among officials and non-officials. I understand that recently in the North-West Frontier Province they have appointed a committee to go into cases of corruption. Similarly, I have also on a previous occasion suggested the appointment of a similar committee to go into the question of corruption in our province in the various departments. I do not want to say in which particular department there is corruption. It is high time that Government appoint such a committee to enquire into the matter. At the same time I would request the Government to constitute a sort of detective department to bring to light which officials or non-officials are corrupt. There is such

a thing like that in the political sphere where they enquire into the conduct of political leaders. So also, they can have a similar enquiry conducted in the case of officers of Government. I therefore suggest that a committee may be appointed to bring to the notice of Government such cases without fear or favour and that it might be under the direct control of the Government.

"Again, Sir, I would like to bring to the notice of the Government one other fact and that is in the matter of tours by officers of Government, especially in the Revenue department. What the divisional officers do at present is, they tour only in particular places under their jurisdiction in order to complete the number of days that they have to spend outside their headquarters according to the rules. What I want to urge on the Government is that these officers should, within their period of office in the division, tour all the villages in their jurisdiction, because it is only then that they will come to know the real grievances of the ryots and be in a position to remedy them. They should not undertake tours only in particular places in order to get their travelling and other allowances, but they should go on tour in order to find out the real grievances of the ryots first hand and that too in the interior of the division and then try to redress them.

"Coming to the question of discretionary grants by the collectors, I would like to point out that they should not be made to spend all the amount as they please. I have of course no objection to their spending the amount, but all I want is that whenever they intend to spend it, they must be asked to publish in the district gazette for what purpose they are going to spend it. The general tax-payer whose money is being spent should know for what purpose that amount is being utilized. I therefore suggest that this fact might be published either in the notice board of the Collector's office or in the district gazette.

"Before I finish, Sir, I would like to bring another point to the notice of the Government, and it is this. Nowadays it has become rather the fashion to construct clubs near the public offices. I do not know whether Government have given permission to put up such buildings in Taluk offices or in Sub-Collectors' offices . . ." (Mr. C. Basu Dev: 'Poor clerks.')

* The Deputy President:—"Order, order. The hon. Member may go on. He may address the Chair."

Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari:—"I am not addressing anybody else, Sir. I know I have to address the House through you and I am addressing you, Sir. I am not against recreation being afforded to the poor clerks. What I am anxious about is as to why such clubs should be constructed in public offices especially when the public also have subscribed towards the same. They can as well construct such clubs somewhere outside the premises of public offices so that they may be useful to the other members of the public also because they have also paid something by way of subscription.

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" Sir, the frequent changes of the officers also is another grievance against the departments. For example, I will give one illustration. For the last one year and a half or so we had four District Superintendents of Police. I know it will come under the Police Demand. I can bring it up now because it comes under District Administration. It is more appropriate to discuss it under this head than under the Police Demand. So, Sir, I suggest that frequent transfers are not desirable. I know in the Revenue department we had very many changes in regard to our Sub-Collectors also. One Sub-Collector from the southern districts is transferred to Ongole and the ousted person is again posted somewhere in the north. A lot of money is wasted on these unnecessary transfers without any proper scrutiny. When they have to pay money for any other purpose they say finance is not sufficient. But for these transfers a lot of public money is wasted. By the time one person begins to study the locality he is transferred to another place and thereby we do not have any officer who knows our conditions so that he may represent the case to the higher authorities. With these observations I suggest some kind of scrutiny is necessary. 1 p.m

" Another thing that I wanted to bring to the notice of the Government is that some of the departments are being inspected by the heads of departments themselves and not their superiors. The district officer himself will fix some date for the inspection of his own office and then he will write something. I cannot imagine how he can inspect his own office. Probably the Hon. the Revenue Member is anxious to know which that department is. The District Educational Officer inspects his own department whereas the Collector's office is inspected by the Member of Board of Revenue. There is no such inspection by the Director of Public Instruction or other officer. So I suggest that every department must be inspected by the highest authorities. With these words I support the motion."

* Mr. V. T. Arasu :—" If I support the motion of Mr. Premayya, I should not be understood as subscribing to the line of argument advanced by the hon. Gentleman in support of his motion. I would however prefer to lay stress on some of the points and arguments of my hon. Friend, Mr. Krishnayya Choudari. Before I come to those points, I should like to elicit information on one important question from the Hon. the Revenue Member and it is this. There is a persistent rumour afloat that the Government have decided or contemplate the initiation of the policy of appointing only Europeans as Secretaries to the departments in the Secretariat. I wish that the rumour is not true."

The Hon. Sir Charles Souter :—" All I can say at once is that it is not."

* Mr. V. T. Arasu :—" I am glad to be assured that it is not true. If it is not true I should like to make an appeal to the Hon. the Revenue Member and to the Government as a whole that they should appoint many more Indians as Secretaries to the departments in the Secretariat. I believe at present except the Joint Secretary of the

Local Self-Government Department there is not even one Indian who holds the position of Secretary to-day. I therefore appeal to the Hon. the Revenue Member that more Indians should be appointed as Secretaries to Government, especially in view of the fact that, on the eve of Reforms Indians in such important positions will be in a better position to interpret the wishes and aspirations of the people than the Europeans would be.

" The next point I should like to dwell upon is in regard to the status and salary of the village officers about which Mr. Krishnayya Choudari spoke so very vehemently. At the outset I must say that the solution to this problem of the salary and status of the village officers, is not an easy one. It bristles with very many difficulties, and therefore the proper time for any reform to be effected would be when the new Government under the Reform scheme is set up. That is my feeling. At the same time I should think that the present Government should also move and make some effort in the direction of suggesting and having some ready schemes of reform of improving the status and salary of the village officers. The Hon. Member, Sir, will be aware that we allot every year 93 lakhs of rupees as salaries to the village officers. We have to-day about 14,648 karnams and 16,093 village munsifs besides about 50,000 talaiyaris and vettiyans throughout the Presidency. If one should suggest an increase of their salary by even one rupee, I admit it will come to a very big sum, about 8 or 9 lakhs per annum. I admit that. On that ground, Government should not sit with their hands folded without giving any increase in their salary on the ground that it would be a heavy burden on the resources of this Government. My esteemed friend pointed out that the village munsifs are the jacks of all jobs. Their services are indented upon by all departments, including Education, Public Health, Medical, Local Self-Government, not to speak of the Revenue Department. Their duties have increased considerably during the last few years; but their salaries have not at all been increased. I suggest that in the informal conference which the Hon. the Finance Member is going to convene to suggest ways and means of effecting retrenchment and finding out new sources of revenue, this question of the improvement of the salary of the village headmen may be taken up.

" I have one or two suggestions to get over this difficulty. At any rate in the case of small villages two or three may be grouped and placed under one munsif. At present the practice is to place one munsif in charge of each revenue village.

" I think it is Mr. Krishnayya Choudari that graphically pointed out to this House how the karnams and munsifs are at logger heads. The karnam has a party of his own and the munsif has a party of his own and they are at logger heads. That state of affairs ought to be put and end to during the next few months. The Hon. the Revenue Member has to decide who is subordinate, whether it is the karnam or the munsif and define their respective duties. Government should issue

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the necessary instructions in the matter. I am afraid where we are going to be at the time of the coming elections, in the midst of this fight between the karnams and the munsifs. I do not know where it will lead to; and I should not be surprised if this leads us to open riots in the coming elections. So I would earnestly request the Hon. the Revenue Member to clear their respective positions and issue the necessary instructions in the matter."

Mr. C. Basu Dev:—" Appoint Arbitration Boards."

Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari:—" Mr. Basu Dev will be on the Labour Board."

* Mr. V. T. Arasu:—" I would also join my friend in making an appeal to the Government to see that in the matter of transfer of district officers considerable care should be exercised. It was a very good instance pointed out by Mr. Choudari of an officer from the southern end being transferred to Ongole and an officer from Tinnevelly being transferred to Ganjam. There are several instances of transfers from one end of the Presidency to the other. I do admit there is force in the argument that exigencies of administration necessitate periodical transfers. But to persistently make such transfers from one to the other end is not in the interest of either economy or efficiency. Government must take care to see when transfers are made that they are made from one district to the neighbouring district. Greatest care should be exercised in that direction. Government should as far as possible retain an officer for at least three years in one place. There is no use in posting an officer and having him transferred within a year or six months. There is absolutely no time to study the conditions and by the time he understands the conditions he is transferred to another district. For these reasons I urge that considerable care should be taken in regard to these transfers."

* Diwan Bahadur A. Appadurai Pillai:—" I would like to say just a few words regarding the transfer of officers and recruitment to services. With regard to the transfer of officers somehow or other the impression is gaining ground that transfers of officers from one district to another are too frequent. Transfers from the Chingleput have been pointed out as an instance. No officer has stayed for more than three months together so much so that it has not been possible for the officers to get into close touch with the people and learn the conditions of the district first hand. Cuddapah has been quoted as another instance. I have also heard complaints about that district. When an officer goes there and stops for some time he is shifted for exigencies of services or other considerations. Government should, I think, exercise sufficient care in this direction. I dare say that exigencies do require transfers from one place to another. But if frequent transfers could be avoided it will serve the best interests of the people.

" Sir, the transfer of officers very frequently takes away that close touch with the people which has existed previously. We have known instances where formerly Collectors were stationed in districts for years 1-15 p.m.

together, so that their names were associated with those districts. For instance, we have heard of Cocanada Brodie, or Chittoor Rice. Such things have somehow or other disappeared with the result that the officers do not get into close touch either with men and matters or with the local conditions, which is quite necessary in the best interests of the people. I would appeal to the Government that in the matter of these transfers a great deal of care may be taken to avoid shifting of officers of standing. Stop-gap arrangements should as far as possible be avoided if sufficient care is taken, and arrangements made far ahead so as to obviate frequent changes. The great defect that is noticeable in the case of the present day officers particularly junior officers, is *their disinclination to learn the vernacular of the district.* I may quote the instance of the Hon. the Revenue Member who is a past master in Telugu. He has been serving in the Telugu districts for a number of years, conversed in Telugu with the ryots, rubbed shoulders with them as far as practicable, ascertained their conditions, learnt their grievances first hand and tried to remedy them. Can we quote such instances now, Sir? I am sorry to observe that the present day officers do not get acquainted with the vernaculars sufficiently well with the result that they are not in a position to deal with the ryots in a sympathetic manner as their predecessors had been doing. That is a point which I should very much like to bring to the notice of the Government so that they may see that when officers are posted to district charge they choose persons who know the vernaculars thoroughly, whether Tamil, Telugu, Malayalam or Canarese, so that they may come down to the people, live among them more or less and get to know first hand the difficulties of the ryots.

"About the recruitment to the Secretariat service, I should like to say a word or two. The Government Order of 6th August 1935 has caused quite a consternation in the minds of several men of the clerical grade. Prior to the 6th August 1935, the rule was that men selected by the Madras Services Commission, who got on to the eligible list, were eligible for appointment in all offices. They were divided into three classes A, B and C with reference to their proficiency, standard of education, etc. The Government Order of 6th August 1935, however interfered with that arrangement. It says that appointments in the Secretariat will be thrown open hereafter only to graduates and double-degree men, and the Madras Services Commission, I believe, has been asked to adopt this rule, including in their list only such men for appointment in the Secretariat. A real hardship has been caused thereby to the men who were recruited before the 6th of August 1935, and who served for a time in the Secretariat in acting vacancies and who happened to be not in service on that date owing to their acting appointment having ceased. I very strongly appeal to the Hon. the Revenue Member to take into consideration the pitiable condition of these men, some of whom are graduates, M.As. and graduates in law, and who have been brought on to the original eligible list of the Madras Services Commission. They have all become ineligible for appointment in the Secretariat because they did not happen to be in service

on that fortunate or unfortunate date, viz., 6th August 1935. To shut out clerks who are otherwise qualified, in this manner seems, Sir, very hard. I think all those men who some time or other had a chance of acting in the Secretariat, whether they were in service or not on the 6th August 1935, ought to be given a chance of getting back into the Secretariat provided they satisfy other conditions.

" I now come to the communal question of the recruitment of Indian Christians. That has been my unfortunate theme all these years. According to the communal Government Order, Indian Christians have been clubbed together with Europeans, Anglo-Indians and Non-Asiatics. I have often pointed out on the floor of this House the injustice of clubbing Indian Christians with Non-Asiatics. We, Indian Christians, are at best Indians, and have nothing to do with Non-Asiatics. Simply because Indian Christians have changed their religion, it does not seem reasonable that they should be classed with Non-Asiatics. I need hardly say that this interferes with our chances of recruitment in the services. If candidates of Indian Christian community appear before the Madras Services Commission, with members of the other communities mentioned, the Anglo-Indian or the European scores as he has better address and dash. Recently, I have had occasion to interview the Private Secretary to His Excellency the Governor and the Chief Secretary and to bring to their notice pointedly an instance where an Indian Christian of very good parts had not been selected, simply because an Anglo-Indian who had perhaps better address and better dash impressed the Services Commission and got selected, and naturally the Indian Christian, was non-suited. We have been often asking the Local Government and the Government of India to kindly consider the desirability of shifting us from that class. The classification which puts us along with Non-Asiatics like Jews, Parsis, etc., is doing us very grave injustice. We have all along been law-abiding, and we have been perfectly straightforward in our dealings. When that is the case, I do not know why this standing grievance should be allowed to remain unredressed. Two appointments might be set apart, for Indian Christians and another allotted for Anglo-Indians, Non-Asiatics, etc. I do not know what magic is there in the figure 12. The communal proportion may be fixed as two out of thirteen. Thirteen may be considered a bad figure, then make it fourteen. As provided in the case of the Brahmans, give a separate place for the Indian Christians. Are we inferior in point of intelligence or in point of integrity, or in point of loyalty, or in point of competency to Muslims or Brahmans? If not I earnestly request the Hon. the Revenue Member to take us out of this classification, which has been placing a handicap on us in the matter of entering public service.

" One more point I would like to bring to the notice of the Hon. the Revenue Member in connexion with the residence qualification prescribed by the Statutory Rules in the matter of recruitment to the several offices. I had occasion to peruse a petition in which this matter was brought to the notice of the Government, and I believe this representation is receiving the attention of the Government. What I refer to

is this: in the case of non-British subjects, in addition to the certificate of naturalization they have to prove a residence of not less than ten years in India. Non-British subjects would not be selected, if qualified British subjects are available and unless they prove ten years' residence in British India. Sir, I had occasion to find recently, in regard to a recruitment made in October or November last, the Madras Services Commission advertising some post and referring only to five years' residence as the requisite qualification, and that was acted upon. I put an interpellation in the Council the other day in regard to that matter, but unfortunately not being able to be present at the time I was not in a position to ask supplementary questions to elicit information in the matter. I take this opportunity of bringing it to the notice of the Hon. the Revenue Member as to why that rule regarding residence for not less than ten years in respect of non-British subjects was varied. I find that this was done in the case of a notification inviting applications for appointment in the Women Medical Branch, while in the case of some appointments in the co-operative department appearing in the same gazette, the 10 years' residence in the case of non-British candidates was insisted upon. Sir, it is easy to get over the five years' rule because it takes five years to complete the medical course, whether M.B.B.S. or L.M. & S., and that can be treated as residence for the purpose of employment, thus evading the rule of naturalization. So, I would appeal to the Hon. the Revenue Member that in the case of non-British subjects the ten years' residence rule should be vigorously enforced. After all, non-British subjects are under no obligation to bear the brunt of taxes, etc., as the British subjects, and they have no stake in the country, and I do not know why they should be allowed to carry the plums which would otherwise go to British subjects. With these few observations, I commend my remarks to the Hon. the Revenue Member."

The House then adjourned for lunch.

After lunch—2-30 p.m.

* Rao Sahib V. I. Muniswami Pillai:—"Mr. President, Sir, I have given notice of two cuts, and I shall confine myself to the first. I do not see why none of the Collectors has so far sent any schemes for the amelioration of the depressed classes. Some time back some of the members of the depressed classes were agitating for the establishment of advisory boards in every district, so that Collectors may know what their requirements and difficulties are. Now, Sir, after the campaign inaugurated by Mahatma Gandhi boards called Harijan Seva Sangams have been established in each district all over the Presidency for finding out and meeting the needs of the depressed classes. I think, Sir, that Government should come forward to do something to establish advisory boards under the control and guidance of District Collectors. As regards the assignment of lands still there is difficulty. In most cases that I have come to know of, karnams and maniyagars do not easily give out the required survey numbers and help the depressed class members

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in putting in applications. In most cases they mislead them rather than help them. I would request the Hon. the Revenue Member to cause some circular to go round instructing the District Collectors to advise these subordinates to help the depressed classes in this matter. Moreover, Sir, in some of the districts some people calling themselves as leaders trade on the depressed classes, and start associations and societies which only take their money and not do anything to help them. I think it must be one of the duties of the Collector to see that such things do not happen.

"Coming to education I find there are only 50 residential scholarships for the whole Presidency. If District Collectors are really interested in the welfare of the depressed classes they would advise the Commissioner of Labour as to their difficulties and try to get more scholarships for them. I know many instances of deserving students not getting scholarships.

"Coming to the Madras Services Commission I have given notice of a token cut motion to raise the question of the poor representation of my community in the various services in the several departments. I thought after the establishment of the Services Commission there were going to be great facilities for such of the communities as had not reached a certain percentage in December 1936. I earnestly thank the Hon. the Revenue Member for the facility he has offered by raising the age limit from 25 to 27 years in the case of Muhammadans and Scheduled castes. But these concessions would be in force only up to the end of 1936 and will expire by the end of this year. So I earnestly appeal to the Hon. the Revenue Member to see that this concession is extended to another period of not less than five years, so that, the few pupils who pass out of the schools may have a chance of getting into the various services under the Government. Sir, I know, as a matter of fact that the depressed class candidates who want to appear before the Services Commission are put to a lot of inconvenience and also are not in a position to pay the entrance and other fees. I know, as a matter of fact, that some of the members feel that the recruitment of the depressed classes should not be through the Madras Services Commission but must be made direct. I do not know whether it would be possible, but I only pray that the Hon. the Revenue Member will give some consideration to this matter and do something so that our people may get a greater share in the administration of the Province."

* Mr. C. Basu Dev:—"Mr. President, Sir, if I rise to take part in this discussion it is to urge the case of Government servants, and the necessity for proper and adequate safeguards against inroads which panicky public men in times of stress and strain may make into the salaries of these servants, salaries which in a majority of cases are not at all sufficient to provide even the minimum of goods and services essential for the maintenance of decency, health and comfort. (Mr. M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar: 'Hear, hear.') I am glad to find support from my hon. Friend. I hope he will continue it. Sir, the

contentment and welfare of the large army of Government servants who form the backbone of the administration is not a matter which can be treated lightly. In the case of 80 per cent of the Government servants their salaries range from a level of serious inadequacy and insecurity to a level of minimum subsistence which makes no provision whatsoever for any emergencies, much less, for any excursions into the realm of extra comforts or cultural engagements. Sir, the Government servants may have two meals a day but I submit they suffer from qualitative poverty which is as potent as quantitative poverty in sapping the vitality and self-respect of a people, two essential ingredients which make or mar a nation. I am sure, Mr. President, that the hon. Members who the other day proposed a cut of 20 per cent in the salaries of Government servants drawing Rs. 40 and above are fully conversant with the sad facts of these unfortunate people."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I do not think there will be any useful purpose served by referring to the vote of the House the other day; the hon. Member is provoking a discussion on the whole question again. I hope he would desist from further observations about the cut that was discussed the other day."

* Mr. C. BASU DEV :—" I bow to your ruling, Sir. My whole point is that Government must introduce some adequate, definite safeguards against future attempts to play ducks and drakes with the salaries of Government servants, safeguards which cannot be infringed by future members who come into this House. (A voice: ' How can it be done? ') I was only pointing out, Mr. President, how the salaries are inadequate, and that inadequate as they are they ought not to be further meddled with to make the position worse. If I referred to the attempt to reduce the salaries, it was to strengthen my case for further safeguards. I hope, Sir, I will not be out of order if I refer to the condition of Government servants, how their inadequate remuneration is making their life miserable. It was reported in the papers the other day that His Majesty visited the slums of London and found families with children living in single rooms with kitchens adjoining.

2-45 p.m. " Sir, may I point out to the hon. Members that very many middle class persons in the employ of the Government have no more than a single room and a kitchen in which they and their children live. (A voice: People on what pay?) They are people getting from Rs. 40 to Rs. 70. I hope my hon. Friend will examine the family budgets of these Government servants and be convinced that their salaries are not sufficient to make both ends meet. (Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar: ' May I know what limit the hon. Member would fix for a cut in salaries? ') Mr. President, I would like once more to refer to the way in which some hon. Members wanted to deprive the poor salaried Government servants of a fifth part of their pay in order to grant doubtful relief at the best to the agriculturists."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I am afraid the hon. Member is once more treading on forbidden ground. I have already told him that

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any such reference will provoke discussion once again. If the hon. Member wants to propose any safeguards against inroads on the salaries of Government servants he will probably be just on the border line of being in order, and if he pleads for increase in salaries I will certainly allow him to do so. But, on the other hand, if he refers under this Demand to the salary cut motion as well as the land revenue remission, he will be out of order."

Diwan Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGAM CHETTIYAR:—" Sir, may I make a personal explanation? I am the person who moved that cut motion and I made a specific remark that the Rs. 40 mentioned there was too low and that it should be Rs. 100."

* Mr. C. BASU DEV:—" I bow to your ruling, Sir. I have said enough to draw the attention of the Government to the great and urgent need for providing safeguards against any future proposals for cut in the salaries. My hon. Friends opposite are treating this matter lightly. They will take a different view of the matter if only they care to know what little a Government servant takes home on his pay day after paying the instalments to the sowcars, to the co-operative society and hand-loans borrowed from his friend.

" Sir, I would like on this occasion to associate myself with the remarks of my hon. Friend, Mr. Krishnayya Choudari, regarding the village servants. Sir, Mr. Choudari has spoken from personal experience and has made pointed reference to the urgent need for giving some help to the village servants who are charged with the serious responsibility of carrying large amounts of money from their places to the taluk treasury. I hope the Government will consider this question with sympathy.

" Another point which I wish to touch upon is the representation of the backward Hindu communities. Last year the Hon. the Revenue Member referring to this question said that it was impossible to subdivide the Hindu backward communities. As I had stated on a previous occasion and supported my hon. Friend, Mr. Manikkavelu Nayakar, the Hindu backward communities as a body are prepared to take their chance. The question of sub-division does not therefore arise and there does not seem to be much difficulty in finding out which of the communities come under the term backward Hindu communities. The Educational Rules give us a list, a practically exhaustive list, of the backward Hindu communities. If the Government make some attempt, they will be able to find out whether the list is complete or not. They can get it completed easily and it will not be difficult to make some provision by suitably amending the communal Government Order so as to give the backward Hindu communities at least two out of every twelve appointments. That will afford some satisfaction to the communities concerned and that would lend some meaning to the present Government Order. With these few words I once more urge upon the Government to provide some safeguards against the cut in salaries of Government servants and to give adequate representation in the services to the backward Hindu communities."

* Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—" Mr. President, if I rise to support this cut motion, it is only to voice the feelings of the village officers that they are underpaid and overworked. Time was when these officials were recruited from the wealthy landholders of the village and they were considering these offices as places of honor. The offices were in many cases hereditary, but now they have become more and more non-hereditary and the people have become far poorer. In the old days they had a lot of leisure and they were attending to their private business which was extensive and lucrative. But now the case is different. The village officers are now called upon to do various kinds of work and this leaves them no time at all to attend to any sort of private work such as trade or other work and make some supplementary income. Moreover, in the case of shanbhogues or karnams of the village, they have become also non-hereditary office-holders in many cases and the small sum of about Rs. 15 paid to them monthly is hardly enough for them. In addition to their heavy day to day work, on account of settlement, etc., their work has enormously increased and some of them have even appointed their own assistants for discharging the duties they are called upon to do paying them out of their private funds. I had occasion some time back to know the affairs of these village officers rather intimately. They have described to me the very hard condition in which they have been placed. It appears that in addition to their routine work which is sufficiently hard, they are called upon to attend headquarters for this business and that for days together without being given any daily or travelling allowance even. As a matter of fact very little of their pay remains after meeting these expenses. In the Bombay presidency the village shanbhogues are paid between Rs. 30 and Rs. 40, whereas we here pay them only Rs. 15 or Rs. 16. This is a very sad state of affairs. I request the Hon. the Revenue Member to sympathetically consider this case and alleviate their hard lot by not only giving them higher salary but travelling and daily allowances also whenever they are called upon to go to the headquarters on official business. I hear a whisper that that would be a case for increasing the land revenue. It is not so. The whole trouble with our Presidency is that the higher officers are paid far too much and the lower officers are paid far too little. If only we make a thorough readjustment of all the salaries paid to our officers and remove the existing sharp inequalities, it would be possible to pay the village officers more even without increasing the revenue from land.

" Now, Sir, I would like to say a word about the rules regulating the promotion of officers in the Revenue department. Sir, the rules seem to be based upon the age reached by an officer at the time of promotion. For instance, if a revenue inspector is to be promoted as deputy tahsildar he should have acted as deputy tahsildar before he was 40 years old. Again, if a deputy tahsildar is to be promoted as tahsildar, he should have acted as such before he was 45 or so and, if a tahsildar is to be promoted as deputy collector he should have acted as a deputy collector before he attained his 45th or 50th year. My submission is

that this basing of the right to get promoted on acting within a particular age is highly illogical. Sir, the opportunity to act in a particular post is purely a matter of accident. It depends upon several circumstances. A man might be fully qualified for a promotion and yet may not get a chance at all for no fault of his. This sort of rule works serious hardship in the case of officers of all ranks. I know the case of a revenue inspector belonging to the fishermen community by name U. Appayya who suffered under this rule. He is a very capable man and would have acted as deputy tahsildar but for a certain accident. The accident was that the collector, instead of giving him the chance to act as a sub-magistrate though he was the senior, gave it to a Muhammadan simply because he was a Muhammadan. So, it is not for any fault of his that he did not get it. Then, by the time the next chance came, he had passed his 40th year and was under this rule debarred from getting the promotion. When I raised this question some two years ago, Sir Archibald Campbell said that if the gentleman appealed to the Government the matter would be considered. I believe the appeal was made, but the rules above said stood in his way and the appeal was rejected. Sir, my submission therefore is that these rules which are highly illogical and are based on no sensible principle should be abrogated and chances for promotion should be equally distributed among all deserving persons of merit.

" Lastly, Sir, I would like to say one word about the Public Services Commission. I referred to this matter in an interpellation during the last session. Sir, the Commission advertises for more posts than are actually necessary and selects a far larger number of men than is actually necessary for the posts. In reply to my question, as I said, the Hon. the Revenue Member said that as many as 500 or 600 of the selected candidates had to be rejected because they became age-barred by the time vacancies arose.

" My submission is that instead of selecting such a large number of persons it would be better if the Government selected only the required number of persons for the vacancies that are likely to arise within the next year, so that it may lessen the disappointment caused to a number of people who would be anxiously waiting that they would be selected, but who in the end would get disappointed if they are not selected." 3 p.m.

* Diwan Bahadur R. SRINIVASAN :—" Since I gave notice to move a resolution to abolish the hereditary rights of the village officers there has been agitation in the Province by those officers, not to abolish such rights. On the other hand, the depressed classes and such other communities are jubilant over the move. I have received also communications from Malaya and Bombay that the posts of village officers should not be allowed to remain hereditary, because the posts carry so much influence and prestige with them in the villages in which these officers live, so much so these officers are always prone to harass the depressed classes people and certain castemen families in the village with whom they are not in good relationship. That is the kind of venom that these hereditary village officers carry from father to son.

Sir, I read an account in the 'Madras Mail' that a certain village munsif reported to the Police that a certain woman in the village who died a natural death had been murdered. But in doing so, the village munsif miscalculated the time within which he thought that the Police officers would not come to the village for making an inspection of the dead body. The dead body was removed to the cremation ground. Before the pyre was set fire to the Police officers arrived at the village and removed the dead body for medical examination and found that it was a natural death and not death caused on account of murder. It is this sort of venom of hereditary village officers that has been causing much harm to many families and depressed classes in the villages. Every tahsildar, the deputy collector and the collector should have a close watch on these village officers. In case of any misconduct or misdemeanour of these village officers, the tahsildars should be empowered to dismiss them summarily and punish them. An appeal should be allowed only to the collector and not to the High Court.

"Now, Sir, it is on the village officers that the whole fabric of Government rests. Any statement the village officers make is taken as fact by the revenue inspector and then the tahsildar and then the divisional officer and then the collector and so on and so forth. The village officers are the monarchs of all they survey. I quite admit that the village munsif and the karnam have got very responsible work to do, such as the protection of human lives, cattle, property, collection of revenue, etc., etc. It is a very responsible work that they are doing. I do not undervalue it. Of course the salary that these posts carry is small, but it is the prestige that they carry that make these officers satisfied with their lot. One suggestion was made that these village officers might be transferred from one place to another just like other Government servants. I think this will be a very difficult task for the Government and moreover these officers themselves will not continue in their service. Of course an experiment might be made in a certain taluk with regard to the question of transfer of these men. In this connexion I might say that retired Government servants are able to do the work of the village officers quite efficiently and honestly. I know of cases where a retired postmaster and a retired man from the Military department were able to do the work of the village officers quite as well as anybody else, and in fact more satisfactorily than the hereditary or other village officers

"Then, Sir, one incident which I want to bring to the notice of the Hon. the Revenue Member and elicit information thereon from him is that which took place in Melarasoor village in the Lalgudi taluk, Trichinopoly district. There, I understand, the depressed classes were prohibited from taking water from a public tank by other caste people. There was a big quarrel between the depressed class people and other caste people and I wrote to the Government asking whether the concerned tank was a public tank and if so why the depressed class people were prohibited from taking water from it. To this I got the reply that the Government are unable to comply with my request. I do not understand what they mean by this. If it is granted

that it is a public tank what possible objection could there be for allowing the depressed class people to take water? From private sources I learnt that the collector of the district reported that if access to the tank to take water was allowed there would be a riot, and that was why the depressed classes were not allowed. Well, the collector has his police officers for his assistance and with their assistance he could have made arrangements for the depressed class people to get easy access to the tank. I hope and trust that the Hon. the Revenue Member will give some information on this point.

"Regarding jamabandi, when the collector goes on jamabandi to a particular locality he ought to make previous enquiries whether all the jamabandi work could be completed in that locality. Without doing such a thing, if the work is not completed there and if he goes from place to place on camp and if these village officers and other people are also asked to go to those places, it works a great hardship on them. If the Government are not able to do this, let them pay travelling allowance to these poor people as they do in the case of other Government servants. Some hon. Members are of opinion that these people should be given batta whenever they are asked to come to the headquarters, because they have to travel some 10 or 20 miles whenever they want to go to headquarters and they have to return to their places of residence without any food at all if they are not paid any batta. Talaiyaris in particular deserve consideration. I think this is a reasonable request and I hope the Hon. the Revenue Member will look into this matter."

* Mr. G. SIMHACHALAM PANTULU :—" Mr. President, Sir, I fully endorse the various suggestions made by my hon. Friend, Mr. Krishnayya Choudari. Regarding the grievances of the village officers, I only want to add a few remarks. I am sorry to admit that there is some clash between the village munsifs and village karnams so far as the distribution of village menials among them is concerned. There is some reason for it. In the pay bill, the authorities insist on the signature of the village munsif as well as that of the karnam to see whether these village servants worked under them during the whole of the month. The village munsif claims superiority over the village karnam and says that he is really the man who is entitled to extract work from the menials and the village karnam says that he is entitled to extract work from them. So there is a clash between them with regard to the distribution of these servants to work under them. Even with regard to the execution of some of the important works of Government entrusted to them by their superiors, these officers, on account of the dispute between them, do not depute their menials to discharge them. So if it is not administratively inconvenient to the Government, may I appeal to the Hon. the Revenue Member to see that this kind of clash between the village headman and the karnam is removed and peace is created in the villages.

"There is another thing also which creates quarrel between the village munsif and the karnam. In olden days when these village munsifs were not literate enough, these karnams were required to help them

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in the village administration when the village munsifs were trying small suits and petty criminal cases. In olden days the village karnams were required to help the village munsifs and instructions or rules to this effect are contained in the Village Manual itself. Unfortunately a correct translation of what is contained in the Village Manual is not made—probably in Tamil it is correct—and in Telugu parts it is always stated—గ్రామ యజమానునికి కర్ణం గుమస్తాగా పనిచేయవలెను. So what is contained in the Village Manual is taken advantage of by these village munsifs and they say that the village karnams must be their subordinates or clerks and therefore the village menials must be under their (village munsifs') control. My submission is that the Village Manual requires correction. Otherwise there will be no peace in villages. The village munsif is not allowed to try any suits in view of the creation of panchayat courts and he is not nowadays illiterate, and therefore the village karnam is not now expected to co-operate with him in his duties. I therefore request that the Hon. the Revenue Member will be pleased to abrogate that portion from the Village Manual.

"Sir, the village officers are the pillars of the administration. Every one of our hon. Members is aware that it is on account of them the whole revenue administration is being run, and they are helpful to the administration in their own way.

"There is another thing, viz., the joint responsibility of the village munsif and the village karnam in the matter of collection of revenue. Sir, I may state that it is the village headman that is responsible for collecting the revenue. The karnam is only bound to help him by giving him a sort of account for the collection work. After the collection work the village munsif has not much work. For the maintenance of other accounts the village karnam is responsible. Now the authorities generally make both these officers responsible for collection work. Of course I would not grudge the Government extracting work from both of them in the interests of good administration. I am feeling only one thing and that is they are making the karnam responsible in case of any lapse of work. I know of one case where a karnam was prosecuted under section 409. Legally the karnam is not entitled to receive the amount and he is not therefore legally liable to any charge of misappropriation or any such thing inasmuch as there is not legal entrustment. There are certain cases where the karnams who have given receipts to the pattadars were prosecuted under section 409 and convicted also. So the joint responsibility has to be avoided. If you do not define the duties of karnams, it would necessarily mean that they are responsible for collection work also.

-15 .m. "Sir, there is another difficulty. Under Act III of 1895 insolvency or want of property is not a disqualification for a village officer. But now the Board of Revenue has taken the responsibility of saying that indebtedness is a distinct disqualification and the moment a man becomes an insolvent the Board directs his dismissal. There is no option to the local authorities. I do not know how the Board of Revenue is entitled to take this serious responsibility of making that rule. So

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many village officers are being dismissed as soon as they become insolvents for no fault of their own. This is an appointment governed by a statute and unless there is a provision to that effect in the Act the Board of Revenue has no right to frame rules and take advantage of those rules to remove village officers. This is a point which I wish to bring to the notice of the Hon. the Revenue Member.

" Sir, the persecution of village officers is a standing grievance in my district. Fortunately or unfortunately, in a couple of years, ten or twelve dismissals of village officers have taken place. Sir, it is known to every one that they require special treatment, especially in these troublous days when they have to work hard both night and day for the sake of this Government and take responsibility in several matters. Under section 7 of Act III of 1895 the collector or the revenue divisional officer has power to suspend, remove or dismiss any village officer for unfitness or misconduct or any other sufficient cause in the opinion of the collector. This provision is taken undue advantage of and village officers are being punished. Sir, if the village officer happens to be a member of a forest panchayat and if he misbehaves as such, instead of resorting to the penalties provided in the Forest Panchayat Act they are taking advantage of the Act III of 1895 and dismissing the village officers. If a village officer happens to be a member of a co-operative society and if he fails to repay the loan taken by him from the society, that point also is taken into consideration and he is deprived of his appointment under the provisions of the Act III of 1895. If he happens to be a member of a panchayat court, and if he is found fault with in the discharge of his duties there, because he is a village officer, disciplinary action is taken against him. Sir, it is for the purpose of safeguarding the interests of these village officers that I recently submitted an amending Bill to Act III of 1895. Unfortunately the Hon. the Revenue Member informed me that unless there was delegation of powers from the Secretary of State, the amendments could not be placed before the Legislative Council. I am still corresponding with the Revenue authorities and I hope the Hon. the Revenue Member in view of the difficulties experienced by these officers, and in view of the issues raised here on the floor of this House, will take a sympathetic view and see his way to bring forward the necessary amendments to the Act himself if it is not possible for him to allow my amendments to be discussed, and see that the condition and status of the village officers are improved.

" Sir, recently my hon. Friend, Mr. Premayya, and myself gave notice of a resolution to increase the salaries of village officers. No doubt it is a question of finance. Still we have done our duty because we know that the village officers are doing so many kinds of duties and it is but just that in these hard days we should give them some sort of encouragement so that they may always prove loyal.

" Sir, Mr. Subrahmanya Bhatt referred to the age-limit rule with regard to deputy tahsildars and tahsildars. It is not a statutory rule.

It is applicable only to deputy collectors and no such rule is laid down with regard to persons below that grade. Yet the Board of Revenue has been following the rule freely. I know that many people of sterling character and capacity have suffered on account of that rule. I am told that the Hon. the Revenue Member has been corresponding recently with the Secretary of State with a view to relaxing that rule. If it is true I should thank him very much and I would request him once again to pursue the matter and see to the end that these people who entered service hoping to rise higher and higher in public service are really safeguarded in their interests. May I also request the Hon. the Revenue Member to see what has happened with regard to the several appeals filed from our district against the orders of the Collector and the Board of Revenue? Sir, even in the case of village officers the memorials are to be invariably sent to the Madras Services Commission. Though I was opposed to the appointment of a Public Services Commission I have recently come to realize the importance of such an institution. I think the Revenue Department would do well hereafter to send all the appeals to the Public Services Commission, as it will satisfy the affected persons if they know that their appeals are being considered by a disinterested authority and that there is every scope for their grievances being redressed.

" Sir, in our district much jugglery is being played with regard to the Registration Department. There were 20 vacancies in our district. (An hon. Member: ' This is not relevant.') I think it comes under District Administration, but I shall abide by the President's ruling."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—" Is there any provision made under this Demand for Registration Department? "

Mr. G. SIMHACHALAM PANTULU:—" It is also a part of district administration which consists of so many miscellaneous items."

* Mr. P. V. RAJAGOPALA PILLAI:—" Mr. President, Sir, I am really very thankful to the Government for the ameliorative work done by them for the depressed classes although it has been on a very limited scale. But I am very sorry to bring to the notice of the Government the several obstacles placed by the so-called village officers and the caste people so as to frustrate the good intentions of the Government. I particularly want to make mention of the grant of darkhast lands. As my hon. Friend, Mr. Muniswami Pillai, already mentioned the depressed class people are not given any help in the matter of preparing applications for darkhast lands, I shall give one or two concrete cases. In a village in Chingleput taluk a poor Adi-Dravida was cultivating certain land for 11 years. According to the resettlement register the land was shown as Government dry poramboke land liable to pay an assessment of eleven annas per annum. But the karnam of the village turned round and said: ' This is threshing poramboke land ' and the poor Adi-Dravida had to pay a penal kist. But being

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unable to pay the higher kist he gave up cultivating the land for good. There is another concrete case in a village not far from here. There three Adi-Dravidas had put in a petition for darkhast land. The Revenue Inspector went there and made enquiries and the village munsif informed him that there was no objection to grant the land in darkhast. But as soon as the Revenue Inspector went away from the place the caste Hindus of the place whose lands the three Adi-Dravidas were cultivating, sent for the Adi-Dravidas and told them that they could no longer cultivate their lands and the village panchayat also inflicted a fine of Rs. 50 on them. They were also told that unless and until they withdrew their application for darkhast lands their cattle would not be able to leave the sheds. I shall cite one more instance. My hon. Friend, Mr. Premayya, mentioned a case in Rajahmundry. There a poor Adi-Andhra happened to ride on a bicycle in a public street inhabited by Kammas. For that the poor Adi-Andhra was beaten with a shoe for which the Kammas were convicted and fined by the sub-magistrate. The British Sub-Collector, an I.C.S. officer, to whom the case was taken up in appeal by the caste Hindus is reported to have said that the insult was of an ordinary kind and the person insulted belongs to a class which would not have thought it an insult a few years ago. I ask, Sir, whether there are different laws in the Indian Penal Code for different castes. What would have been the fate of the Adi-Andhra if he had beaten a Kamma with a shoe a few years ago? I would therefore reiterate the request made by my hon. Friend, Mr. Muniswami Pillai, that the Government should take steps to form advisory committees to help the Adi-Dravidas in each district.

"Then, Sir, with regard to communal representation, I should like to bring to the notice of the sympathetic Revenue Member that according to the lists published by the Government the sanctioned strength of non-gazetted officers on Rs. 35 and upwards and below Rs. 100 was 22,712 and out of this number only 111 were members belonging to the scheduled castes while according to the proportion of population there should have been 1,892 officers. Then again the sanctioned strength of officers below Rs. 35 is 55,035 and the number of our people who hold such appointments is 1,870 whereas it should have been 4,586. I ask the Government, Sir, when the minimum educational qualification for these appointments is the S.S.L.C., whether sufficient number of qualified candidates from the depressed classes were not available?

"Sir, the illustrious predecessor of the present Revenue Member was kind enough to raise the age-limit of depressed class candidates entering Government service to 26 years in the case of technical appointments and 27 years in the case of ministerial appointments. This concession expires on the 31st December 1936. I would request the Government to fix the age-limit both for gazetted appointments and for ministerial service at 26 years and for technical appointments at 27

years and to allow this concession for at least another five years from 1st January 1937. In this connexion I may bring to the notice of the Hon. the Revenue Member that in the case of deputy registrar of co-operative societies the age-limit of depressed classes has been raised to 27 years till 1938. With these words, I resume my seat."

2-30 p.m. * Khan Bahadur P. KHALIF-UL-LAH SAHIB Bahadur:—" Mr. Deputy President, Sir, in rising to speak on this motion, I wish to say only a few words about village officers. Of course I am in perfect agreement with the previous speakers who stated that the pay of these village officers is very inadequate to the present conditions and that they should be given some increment.

" Besides this, what I wish to bring to the notice of the Government with regard to these village officers is that in the matter of their recruitment, main consideration should be had to their educational qualifications. Hitherto village officers had been doing duties which did not require much education. But now, Sir, in many villages, the Village Panchayat Court is being presided over by the village officer and he is, so to say, acting as the judge in that local area. I came across a very sorry instance of a village officer who was also the panchayat court president who dealt with a certain case in his court. When the papers were placed in his hands, he was not able to make out what a plaint was, what a statement was, whether they were plaints or written statements. Such sort of men should not, in the interests of the administration, be selected for these appointments.

" Lastly, Sir, many hon. friends referred to the question of age-limit in the matter of promotions. I am prone to think that there is absolutely no reason why age-limit should be fixed when the persons cannot be held responsible for exceeding the age-limit. They are expected to act for a certain period before such and such an age. If it was in their volition to act, they would certainly have done so. But, as my friend pointed out, it is due to the exigencies of service and other circumstances which are certainly beyond their control. If this age-limit is to apply, it would seem as if they are made to suffer for no fault of theirs. It is therefore high time that the rule should be modified."

* Mr. M. DEVADASAN:—" Mr. President, Sir, in speaking on the cut motion moved by Mr. Premayya, I want to make a few observations. In doing so, I do not want to traverse the same ground already covered by my hon. friends. I wish to say a few words about the Madras Services Commission with regard to which I have given notice of a cut motion. I should say in the first place that the Services Commission is not doing its duty in the way in which it ought to. In answer to an interpellation I put with regard to Excise sub-inspectors, the information given by the Government was most disappointing. Candidates for the Excise sub-inspectors' posts were asked to interview the Public Services Commission not only in Madras but also in the

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mufassal. I know of an instance where a Tinnevelly candidate came to Madras for being interviewed by the Commission. I have heard of an instance in which candidates from the City of Madras were asked to go to Madura for being interviewed by the Commission. I should submit in this connexion that none of the candidates who went far away from their places at great expense and inconvenience for being interviewed, were selected; one candidate applied for being interviewed at Madras itself; he was asked to interview the Commission at Madura. His request was refused. The other day I was asked to specify instances. The Commission could have avoided asking the candidates to interview them at places which were far away from those in which they were living.

"I have got another grievance against the Commission. When they invited applications for the posts of Excise sub-inspectors, they called for applications from men in the service. When they appeared before the Commission, they were asked why they should have applied for these posts while they were already in service. This is quite unreasonable and unjustifiable. I understand that none who were in service were selected. I speak subject to correction.

"Another point, Sir, is that candidates are not selected and posted according to their aptitude and inclinations; a history graduate is posted to the Public Works Department; whereas a mathematics graduate is posted to the Revenue Department or some other department, where his knowledge will not be of much use to him. What is the criterion on which candidates are allotted for the various appointments? There is neither rhyme nor reason in appointing men to posts for which they have no aptitude or inclination. Choice should be given to the candidates. I find that in the case of I.C.S. officers, they are asked after a period of six or seven years, whether they would like to work in the Judicial department or in the Revenue Department. If they intimate that they wish to join the Judicial Service, they are selected for that service. Why should not the same facilities be given to candidates to Ministerial Service? Why should not this principle be followed in the matter of alloting clerks to different offices?

"I find that another difficulty is being experienced by the candidates appearing for selection by the Public Services Commission. I know of an instance in which a candidate was called for an appointment all on a sudden while he was in the fourth year of University Course. Thus he was prevented from completing his course. In such a case, he should be given sufficient chance to complete his course; and by doing so, no harm will be done either to the Government or to the candidate.

"I also find that the candidates are put to unnecessary troubles as was pointed out by my hon. Friend, Mr. Muniswami Pillai. He complained that they were subjected to expenditure. The candidates are unnecessarily asked to furnish conduct certificates from two respectable people. Members of the Council and other respectable people

are being worried by candidates appearing for the Public Service Commission examinations, to grant such certificates. Are not the certificates they have secured from the principals of colleges and headmasters of high schools, where they had studied once, sufficient to testify to their good character?

" *Then, Sir, Diwan Bahadur Appadurai Pillai stated that candidates should be given more training in handwriting than in typewriting.* This is an additional qualification which the candidates should possess as a condition precedent to their appointment. Is it necessary that every Government servant should know typewriting? Certainly not. As my friend pointed out, candidates do not care now-a-days for their handwriting. Candidates should be able to write well; there is no necessity for every clerk to know typing. When the candidates appear for examinations, they write their answers with hand and they do not type them. I ask if all clerks who have passed the typewriting examination are being entertained for all time to come as copyists. What is the necessity for prescribing the typewriting qualification, even before they are given any appointment? I think it is unnecessary to prescribe that qualification.

" I have to refer to some other points, but I shall be brief as several other Members are anxious to speak. I wish to speak about the rules with regard to the recruitment of clerks to the Secretariat. I was told that men entertained in the Secretariat will continue to be there and that they could not in any way be disturbed and men from outside cannot be taken into the Secretariat service. From an answer given to an interpellation of mine I find that only for special reasons men from outside offices could be taken into the Secretariat. There are men equally qualified in the districts. To put a ban on such men is unjustifiable. I know that men in the Secretariat are given good training and they are found to be far above their colleagues in the mufassal. It would be much better and more advantageous if those persons trained in the Secretariat are transferred to the mufassal and if men in the mufassal are transferred to the Secretariat. I have heard that tahsildars and deputy collectors who were sent from the Secretariat are setting good example for their colleagues in the mufassal. That being the case, why should there not be interchange of men in the Secretariat and the mufassal? Further, mufassal clerks should receive good training by being transferred to the Secretariat here, and they will qualify themselves for higher services.

" I find that members belonging to the scheduled castes and the Christian community have not been sufficiently encouraged by the Services Commission. If you examine the lists of services, you will find that they are not sufficiently represented. I must state to the credit of the Public Service Commission that they have done one thing. They have prevented the overrepresentation of that community which held the monopoly of offices.

" As Mr. Appadurai Pillai stated in the morning, two seats should be provided for Christians and Christians should be separated from

non-Asiatics and Anglo-Indians. I should submit in this connexion that Christians who come from the depressed classes should be given one appointment in the order of communal rotation. The Christian community consists of members of many communities. For statistical purposes, Indian Christians are treated as a separate class though they belong to several denominations. I should impress on the attention of the Hon. the Revenue Member that in future the claims of Christians coming from the depressed classes should be considered. This has been 3-45 p.m. our case in the past, and Members of the Legislative Council representing both Christians and other classes of people have spoken in favour of the claims of depressed class Christians. They suffer from disabilities due to the existence of caste system. This is of course an inherent evil in our country. That is the case and if people think that the caste system cannot be given up easily, the Government must necessarily consider the claims of Christian young men belonging to the depressed class origin.

" Sir, my friends, Mr. Srinivasan and others, have spoken about the hereditary system of village servants. I do not want to add to their remarks; I only want to say that insistence on this hereditary system is against all democratic principles, that men born in certain families should be allowed to enjoy certain privileges. In these days of democracy and nationalism, it does not stand to reason that such a system should continue for any length of time.

" Two years ago, when I spoke on this Demand, I stated that the village servants should be transferred from place to place, as it is done in Travancore. But nothing has been done till now. What I urge is that no one man should be continued in the same place for a long time. I don't have any animus or malice against anybody; but in the interests of democracy, I submit that the hereditary system of office should no longer continue. The hereditary officers are capable of doing any amount of mischief. The system should be put an end to.

" Before I finish, Mr. Deputy President, I shall, with your permission, refer to one more point. Mr. Premayya stated yesterday that some of the depressed classes had been captured by the Congress, and my Friend, Mr. Muniswami Pillai, referred to the fact that the Harijan Seva Sangh has been formed and is doing some good work in some places. So far as I am concerned, I must say that it is a counter-blast to the activities of the Government. When did this Harijan Seva Sangam come into existence? Did it not come into existence immediately after the Poona Pact? Was it not invented only for capturing the depressed classes? At any rate, so far as my district is concerned—I do not know whether any of my friends representing the Congress here know anything about it—this Sangham is not doing its work in the way in which it is said to be doing in other places. On the other hand, I think it is standing in the way of the progress of the depressed classes. I shall quote one instance. Who dropped the question of temple-entry? "

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Rao Sahib V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—" I simply said, Sir, that just like the boards for depressed classes, this Harijan Seva Sangham also was formed; I did not say anything else, nor do I know anything about its working."

Mr. M. DEVADASAN:—" My friend referred to the formation of this sangham; that is why I referred to it.

" Sir, in Tinnevelly district, the Municipality of Tinnevelly passed a resolution for the location of the scavengers' quarters in a place close to the town. Till then the scavengers' quarters were on the bank of a river, some twenty or thirty yards from the agraharam. The present site chosen for the location of the scavengers' quarters is about 200 yards away from the caste people's quarters. Some caste people—I mean some leaders of the Congress party—objected to the location of these quarters on the ground that these people would make the surroundings highly insanitary. They waited on the District Collector in deputation and said that these people were given to the rearing of pigs. I say, Sir, that the Congress people objected to the location of the scavengers' quarters in a place 200 yards away from the quarters of caste people. I said, on that point, in reply to the District Collector, that these people might be asked not to rear pigs. I told him also that in my own place of Tirukkurungudi, the pigs were real scavengers, so much so there could be no objection, even on that ground, to the quarters being located there. I think, Sir, it is these people who stand in the way of the progress of the depressed classes.

" I have given another cut motion, Sir, but I see that the Hon. the Home Member is not here. I may say that in the matter of gun licences, a large number of people who own licences are being deprived of the licences without any reasons being assigned. When orders are sent cancelling the licences, no reason is given. Sir, my people are law-abiding people and they never do anything against the Government. That these people should be deprived of their licences is really very hard. I appeal to the Hon. Member in charge to be good enough to look into this question."

* The DEPUTY PRESIDENT:—" As there are many hon. Members who wish to speak, may I request hon. Members to confine their speeches to five minutes, and not take more time, in order to give those Members a chance? "

* Rao Sahib PANDIT GANALA RAMAMURTI:—" Mr. Deputy President, Sir, I have given notice of the following cut motion, namely:—

> ' *to reduce the allotment of Rs.* 2,24,99,800 *for Secretariat and Headquarters Establishments, District Administration and Miscellaneous—Reserved by Rs.* 100.'

" To urge that the Government be pleased—

(1) to instruct the Madras Services Commission to scrutinize the list of the backward classes on the advice of a committee, if necessary, of competent officials and non-officials, representative of the said communities;

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(2) to instruct the Services Commission in the selection of candidates to show special consideration to the Viswa-Brahmana community in particular and all other deserving Hindu communities in the list of the backward classes in general, which are not now adequately represented in public services;

(3) to adopt separate classification in respect of the Hindu backward classes, as in the case of the Scheduled Classes, for purposes of statutory extension of age-limit, qualifications, direct recruitment and promotions, until such time as the unrepresented communities such as Viswa-Brahmanas, Vanniyakula Kshatriyas, Setti Balijas, Nadars have their due share in the services;

(4) to relax rules relating to educational qualifications, age-limit restrictions, etc., in respect of the members of the backward classes including those of the Viswa-Brahmana community;

(5) to exempt the members of the Viswa-Brahmana community along with other backward classes from payment of fees for the Service Commission Examination, if they cannot entirely be exempted from appearing for such examinations for appointments;

(6) to modify the Government Order prescribing typewriting qualifications for clerks so as to exempt Viswa-Brahmans and other backward classes from passing the test;

(7) to amend the existing rules and orders with a view to secure communal proportion for backward classes in Services; and

(8) to include the Viswa-Karman (Kammalan) community of British Malabar in the list of Scheduled Classes for purposes of representation in Government Service and on local bodies.

"Sir, in doing so, I respectfully submit that though I gave notice of an amendment to the motion of the Hon. the Member for Revenue regarding the Report of the Madras Services Commission for 1934–35 covering the subject-matter of this cut motion, this item on the agenda was not reached and as such I am obliged to table this cut motion for the consideration and support of the House.

"At the outset, I feel constrained to remark that in spite of the fact that certain communities are included in the list of backward classes, the just claims of the said communities in view of their numerical strength and importance have not been recognized as the said list is being treated as a mere scrap of paper by the authorities. Not only has the policy pursued not conferred any benefit upon these communities but also defied all fundamental principles of justice, law and equity. Though the said communities are patient and loyal, they are a much exploited race. The present list of the backward classes is defective and useless as it is incapable of securing any advantages to the said communities. Some of the hon. Members have been crying

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hoarse for a long time about the undue delay on the part of the Government to set right this defect and it is a fatal mistake on their part to ignore this important question.

"May I therefore urge on the Government the need for asking the Madras Services Commission to conduct an enquiry with a view to safeguarding the interests of the backward classes by placing them on a footing equal to that of the depressed classes in respect of appointments. This would obviate the necessity of the backward classes degenerating into the position now occupied by the depressed classes as a result of the policy at present pursued by the Government. I venture to invite the attention of the House to the weighty support my statement has from no less a person than the Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu, our Law Member, and a true, tried and tested friend of the poor and downtrodden. In an amendment moved by him to the Madras Village Courts Amending Act, he conferred the same privileges on the backward classes as those now enjoyed by the depressed classes. Such being the case, I am sure that if our esteemed and popular Member for Revenue, would be pleased to accept the proposition under consideration both on the strength of this precedent and the facts and figures placed before him in the course of this debate and do the needful at least out of consideration for humanity, this naughty problem would be solved.

"Then, Sir, before passing on to the next stage of my argument, I may also take leave to briefly refer to the definition of the word 'Scheduled Castes' by the Government. Replying to the interpellation of Mr. P. V. Rajagopala Pillai, regarding Land Revenue, Administration, Appointment of a member of the Scheduled Castes as Deputy Collector, No. 751 (917) the Hon. the Member for Revenue was pleased to say on 9th March 1935 as follows:—

'The list of the Scheduled Castes given in the White Paper was with reference only to franchise. The list of scheduled classes has reference to representation in the public service and is entirely a different one. The former is based on the criterion of untouchability and includes all the 86 untouchable communities in the Presidency. The latter includes only 39 untouchables but includes an addition of 36 hill and aboriginal tribes and 72 non-untouchable communities.'

"Now, Sir, this is a picture entirely different from the one given by the then Home Member in reply to my hon. Friend, Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari on 17th March 1933. Any way, the fact remains that non-untouchable communities are also included under Scheduled Classes for purposes of appointments. That being so, why not do away with the list of backward classes altogether and maintain one single list both for the Scheduled and backward classes and provide for their participation in services according to their numerical strength? There is no reason why such a procedure should not be adopted.

"Moreover, Sir, the Bombay Government have already set an example in this respect. They were pleased to issue orders that the backward classes should also be given the same privileges as are given to the depressed classes by being classified on the same footing along with the latter in regard to appointments. This is a necessary reform

much overdue in this Province. Time after time hon. Members pleaded for the creation of a separate classification for the backward classes but the Government turned a deaf ear to it as they thought that popular representatives were talking through their hats. That the position of the backward classes is like that of the bird, which is asked to fly after its wings have been clipped, is not a joke but a grim reality. This goes to the discredit of the past administration of the Presidency which has been culpably negligent in its duty in regard to the uplift of these classes. I have therefore the honour to submit that it is but quite fair and just on the part of the Government to consider on democratic lines, this long-standing question with the care and conscientiousness that it deserves and extend preferential treatment to these classes also, as all that is noble in their long established family life is ruined as a result of unemployment. It is little wonder if disease and death are rampant in them as a result of the indifference of the State towards their needs. These remarks of mine have been the result of my long personal experience, and of careful thought and an honest and sincere attempt to arrive at a solution of this most baffling problem. The grinding poverty and indebtedness of these classes have been growing from bad to worse.

" But Sir, it is most unfortunate that despite the rapid introduction of democratic Government in this country, there has been no scope for the growth of real democratic principles and traditions. This is a clear proof of the fact that in spite of continuous agitation for the redress of their grievances on the best of constitutional methods which are open to them, the backward classes have failed to receive any help from the Government till now. If, however, they do not get their grievances redressed it is not because their case is weak or ill-represented.

" There is another important point which I propose to deal with in this connexion, and it is this: Mr. M. Devadasan in his speech delivered on the 15th March. 1935, in respect of Demand No. X, Secretariat, etc., of the budget for 1935–36, accused me thus:—

'Mr. Ganala Ramamurti in the course of his long speech stated that though the Viswa-Brahmana community was Brahman in origin, it should have the same privileges and concession as the backward classes. I should say, Sir, when time after time my hon. Friend claims the social privileges of the high caste Hindus and at the same time also the privileges of the backward classes there is inconsistency. He should claim either the one or the other.'

" Mr. President, Sir, permit me to reply in the words of Government records, etc., to him and to others who challenged me alike.

" Census of India, 1901, Volume XII, Madras, Part I, Report says as follows, at page 139:—

'Subsidiary Table—Details, Group VIII, Castes which pollute even without touching but do not eat beef—Malayalam—Kammalan.'

" Again on the basis of the story of Asokamala's (Sumati Devi) marriage with Sali Raja in Rasa Vahini, the Govi caste people wrote as long ago as 1909 in the columns of the '*Ceylon Independent*' that the Kammalan community were Chandalas! (Please see the 'Aryan' of Colombo, edited by Mr. Alfred E. Roberts Ratnaweera, Vol. II, No. 3 of March 1910).

"And again, Sir, replying to the debate raised by my predecessor Brahma Sri S. Muthumanikya Achariar Avargal, on the use of the term '*Achari*' *after the names of members of the Viswa-Brahmana* community Mr. (afterwards Sir) K. Srinivasa Ayyangar, the then Law Member to Government stated on the floor of this House on the 14th October 1921 as follows:—

'I was personally interested in the question of the Viswa-Brahmana *community and I may say, Sir, that I had to support the contention that the* members of this community were *Dwijas* and double-dosed *Dwijas* (Brahmans). Unfortunately another section of the community cannot brook it. They thought it was a disadvantage, but it came to nothing as the party contesting in court withdrew.'

"Last, if not the least, is the following: In the High Court of Judicature at Madras, Tuesday the third of December, one thousand nine hundred and twelve, Present: The Hon. Mr. Justice Benson, The Hon. Mr. Justice Sundara Ayyar. Second Appeal No. 565 of 1911 against the decree of the Court of the Subordinate Judge of Cocanada, in A.S. Nos. 188 and 179 of 1909, preferred against the decree of the District Munsif of Peddapur, in O.S. No. 600 of 1907, Peddapudy Surayya, appellant (plaintiff) and Appali Buchi Venkiah, respondent (defendant). The Court delivered the following judgment:—

'*The first question in this second appeal is whether the plaintiff a gold*smith or Kamsala is entitled to damages for the defendant stating that the *plaintiff was a Madigajata and not a Brahmajata (i.e.), of Chendala Extraction* . . we dismiss the second appeal with costs.'

"Brahma Sri Balasastri Raojeesastri Ksheerasagar Maharaj of Poona, the late Brahma Sri Shiva Prasada Rautje Maharaj of Allahabad, and my revered father the late Brahma Sri Vividha Vidya Vinodi Ganala Veerabhadriah Garu, the late Brahma Sri Chiruvela Parthasaradhi Achariar Avargal, and others of this Presidency submitted memorials to the authorities at the time of the Census for 1901, 1911, *1921 and 1931 to record the Viswa-Brahmana community in the columns* of the Brahmans as a sub-caste of the same. But it was not done so.

"And then, Sir, in reply to the debate on the honorific prefixes and suffixes to the names of the members of the Viswa-Brahmana community on the 4th August 1931, Sir Archibald Campbell, the then Member for Revenue stated thus:—

'The community would be considered to be Brahmans for the purposes of the Civil Lists and under the rotation rule which applies to candidates for Government Service *would have to take their turn as such*.'

"Well, Sir, that seems to be a fair way of telling things and if my community would have to be included in the list of Brahmans accord*ingly, it should ostensibly have no claim for special concessions. This* is good so far as it goes. On the same analogy should not my community, which is backward in education, services and status be accorded similar treatment along with the recognized depressed classes and allowed to enjoy preferences as such when it is entered as a polluted class in Government records? The Kammalars of British Malabar are entered as a polluted caste in the Census records. Should not that

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section of the community at least be allowed the same special treatment as the depressed classes? I am glad to say that the Government of Travancore State were pleased to confer the same preferences on the members of my community in that State as in the case of the depressed classes. *Proposals may be formulated towards this end after conducting* an enquiry into the matter and taking evidence from the representatives of the community in various localities in the Presidency and the Members of the All-India Viswakarman Liberal Federation, the most accredited representative body of the community.

" *Conflicting as is the foregoing evidence my demands may equally* be conflicting. Surely there is an apparent reason for conflict and ambiguity. One and all would, I hope, agree with me when I say that the origin and the economic status of a community may be different, nay diametrically opposite to each other. A high casteman may fall on evil days, lose his all and suffer in penury. Similar is the case of my community. The Brahmanic origin of my community can never be disproved or doubted. The statements contained in the foregoing extracts are unfortunately worded, caste prejudices having been responsible tor the same, and can never stand a test by ancient Sastras. A thorough repudiation of these observations is long overdue and they have got to be expunged as they offer an insult to the rank and file of the community though English-educated people may not so much take them to heart. This being an unwarranted and unjustified interference with my community, the sooner the Government do away with them the better. But with all that, they all of them overwhelmingly prove that the economic *position of the community is despicably low.* With the economic depression and the rise of the prices of gold and silver the artisan classes are on the verge of poverty, starvation and death. Such being their status, they find it hard to give even ordinary education to their boys. Is it not then a serious impediment to their progress if very high qualifications are required of them and ever so many restrictions are sought to be placed upon them by the Services Commission for their entry into public service? The least that a State ought to do to its citizens is to afford them equal opportunities. The state of affairs of the Viswa-Brahmana community and that of many of the backward classes can be improved if only they are allowed special privileges in the matter of appointments similar to those enjoyed by the Scheduled Classes. Recruitment of the so-called Brahmans to the services is restricted not because of their high birth but because of their preponderance in services. The so-called conflict in my demands should have now vanished.

" Another thing, Sir, and I have done. There may be some who may stand on prestige and take objection to being classified on the same footing along with the Scheduled Classes for special treatment in regard to representation in services. I refuse to agree with this sentimental objection. The whole range of history disproves and those who are thoroughly acquainted with the trend of things cannot accept this

untenable objection. I am sure that there is no fear of the community losing its prestige as its position is safeguarded by the nomenclature resolution adopted by this august body. I have never asked for amalgamation of my community with the depressed classes but have pleaded only for equal opportunities with them.

" What is true of the low economic position of the Viswa-Brahmana community is equally true of most of the backward classes. Unless the lot of these communities is improved they are sure to sink very low and would become the lowest in the Hindu society. The Government have lent their helping hand to the Muslims, Indian Christians, Anglo-Indians, depressed classes and the non-Brahmans. The turn of the backward classes has come now. I hope the Government would give their unstinted support to the proposal I have made, and do their mite to ameliorate the condition of the backward classes."

p.m. * The DEPUTY PRESIDENT :—" Order, order, is it a printed speech? There is no time for it. There are several hon. Members who are anxious to speak. The hon. Member has already taken 10 minutes.

" Order, order, what is it that the hon. Member Mr. Koti Reddi wants to say? "

Mr. K. KOTI REDDI :—" It is suggested that the thing can go into the report without its being read."

* The DEPUTY PRESIDENT :—" I shall allow the hon. Member only two more minutes."

Rao Sahib PANDIT GANALA RAMAMURTI :—" Thank you, Sir.

" We are enjoying, Sir, a Government not by men but by ideas—the idea of the Rule of Law of all—the idea of Institutions of Responsibility for all—the idea of compromise for all—leading up to the possession of Federation by All-India. If the question of the backward classes is not solved favourably now during this transitory period, it will never be solved as under the new constitution the minority communities would have to dance to the tune of the majority communities. Unless the interests of the backward classes are safeguarded now, it is impossible for them to have protection and equal justice in future. Though there is a provision that His Excellency the Governor would administer the portfolio of these classes, it is idle to expect the Head of the Province to interfere in such trifling matters as this.

" Under these circumstances, I sincerely trust that the Government will deem it their duty to come to the rescue of the backward classes by conferring on them independently, the same concessions as they have bestowed on the depressed classes, without prejudice to the existing arrangements for the latter.

" Finally, I request the Government that they may be pleased to accept this demand and help the poor backward classes.

" With these words I close my speech and urge the motion for the support of the House."

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* The Deputy President:—" May I request the hon. Members to take only five minutes each, because a number of hon. Members wish to take part in the discussion."

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed:—" Sir, I shall restrict myself only to five minutes, or if possible, a lesser time. Sir, I have given notice of three or four cut motions under this demand. The first one relates to the possibility of showing some economy in the Revenue Board office. I do not know whether it is possible for the Hon. the Revenue Member to examine the question at this stage as to whether there could be any economy shown in the Revenue Board office either in the personnel of the Board or in the establishment thereunder, or whether he will leave the matter to the incoming Government to consider and see whether the Board is to be continued or economized or to be abolished.

" Sir, the next question which I have in mind is the one relating to direct recruitment of tahsildars and stationary sub-magistrates in the revenue establishment in the districts. I have no some previous occasions urged upon the Government the necessity for the direct recruitment of tahsildars and stationary sub-magistrates. The one object which I want to achieve by this suggestion is that some more unemployed people would be taken into the services. No doubt, Sir, there are people who are already in the service and they are entitled to promotion to the rank of tahsildars and sub-magistrates, but there is yet a very large number of graduates who are still out without any employment and if direct recruitment to these offices of tahsildars and stationary sub-magistrates is to be resorted to, it might solve to some extent the question of unemployment. I know, Sir, I will be told that for tahsildars and stationary sub-magistrates some previous experience is required, particularly in the revenue administration of the district. I think, Sir, that experience would be gained by these employees within the course of one or two years which is prescribed for them by way of probation. During the period of one or two years of their probation, deputy collectors are allowed to learn a good deal of revenue and criminal work in the districts. And similarly, it ought not to be difficult for men recruited as tahsildars and stationary sub-magistrates to undergo the necessary training within that period of probation. I would respectfully ask the Hon. the Revenue Member to examine this question seriously and enquire as to whether it is not possible for the tahsildars and stationary sub-magistrates to be recruited direct from the graduates who are turned out of the Universities. No doubt, there is a certain proportion of these appointments for direct recruitment, but I do not think that that really answers my point; it does not serve the purpose nor will it suffice. There is great need for a larger proportion being reserved for direct recruitment. I would therefore urge that this matter may be considered by the Hon. the Revenue Member.

" Sir, the next point which I have in mind is with regard to the provision of quarters for many of the gazetted officers in the districts.

There are several officers belonging to all departments still in th districts who are yet to be provided with sufficient quarters. I hav personally known many of my friends who have felt great difficulty i getting houses in the districts or in the places to which they are tran ferred all of a sudden and they have to suffer for long months befor suitable houses become available to them. I think it is but elementar justice that Government ought to provide them with suitable quarter After all, those quarters are charged for at a certain percentge of thei income by way of rent. There are several divisional headquarters nc only under the revenue administration but also under the polic administration and also in other departments of service, where quarter have not been provided for several of the gazetted ranks. I woul therefore urge on the Hon. the Revenue Member with the co-operatio of the Hon. the Finance Member to get the required funds release for providing necessary quarters for all the gazetted officers in eac district.

" There is another point, Sir, and I am done. With regard to th question of communal justice, I do not want to speak much. That a question which has been discussed *ad nauseum* but I would only dra attention to one or two suggestions for the consideration of the Hor the Revenue Member. The Government has now in practice tw principles, one of communal rotation and the other one of commun proportion. Sir, I have been urging on the floor of this Council an elsewhere that so long as the rule of communal rotation is going to b adhered to in the matter of recruitment and promotions, there will b no possibility of the under-represented communities getting their du proportion within a reasonable period. I would like to invite th attention of the Hon. the Revenue Member to the fact that there ar still about ten services in which there is not a single Muslim recruite or appointed. If the Hon. the Revenue Member would only make scrutiny, he will find that there has been no Muslim ever appointed t these services and there are also services where by reason of th application of the rule of communal rotation only a very small propor tion of them has been taken in. I would therefore suggest that instea of applying the communal rotation so far as the minority communitie are concerned, in each service the rule of communal proportion ma be applied until each community gets its due share in the service I think this is a matter which ought to receive the attention of Govern ment and if that is done, it will be a great boon to the minorit communities.

" Then, Sir, before I conclude, I would refer to the question o direct recruitment to the services. As I have already stated, parti cularly in regard to the posts of tahsildars and sub-magistrates, I would also urge that in the case of all the services a fair proportior and a larger proportion should be reserved for direct recruitment. There are several services where direct recruitment does not seem to apply I may be wrong and I am speaking from first impressions. I would

urge that in all the services a good proportion should be reserved for direct recruitment and it is in the interests of efficiency of the services to get in more and more fresh blood instead of always limiting recruitment mostly to promotions. Particularly, there are some services—and I am sure the Hon. the Finance Member knows it—where instead of promoting men from the lower ranks to the higher ranks, it will help immensely to improve the services and the administration if direct recruitment is made and appointments are made from men who are available. I would like the Hon. the Revenue Member to consider that aspect of the question at some length and then come to a solution. No doubt a certain small proportion only is reserved for the time being for direct recruitment. I wish that that proportion is increased in course of time.

"There is one point, Sir, which has been brought to my notice and that is this. In certain districts the village officers are being coerced by the higher authorities to pay the arrears of land assessment from out of their own pockets if any sums remain unpaid by the ryots. I would like the Hon. the Revenue Member to make an enquiry as to how far these allegations are true. Several hon. Members of this House have themselves told me—at least some of them—that in certain districts the tahsildar or the revenue inspector or the higher authorities send for the village officers and then make them pay down from out of their pockets whatever amount has been left uncollected. That is a serious thing for these village officers. In some cases it is not possible for them to provide the money readily and then they have either to go and borrow money or take the risk of being suspended or otherwise punished and in some cases even dismissal might take place. That, Sir, is the state of affairs. I would request the Hon. the Revenue Member to see to what extent this coercion of these village officers for the payment of arrears of uncollected taxes could be prevented."

* Mr. A. Ramakrishna Reddi :—" Mr. Deputy President, I wish to draw the attention of the Hon. the Revenue Member to two points, one with regard to the difficulties experienced by the ryots during the kist collection and the other, the difficulties of the village officers in the Presidency. As regards the collection of land revenue, it has been found that there have been very many complaints from ryots that proper kist receipts are not being granted to them. This is largely due to the fact that the karnam who is expected to prepare what is called the provisional demand and give it to the village munsif so that he might give a proper receipt to the ryot does not generally do so. It is also due to the fact that there are a very large number of joint pattas, which if they had been subdivided and given distinct numbers, would give very little scope for either the karnam or the village officer to defraud the ryot. In the case of joint pattas, usually the amount is collected from any one of the joint pattadars and that is sufficient for their purpose. This is the only loop-hole where during the kist collection it is possible for the village officer and the karnam to collude together and collect a much larger

amount than is due from the ryot and then appropriate the excess for themselves. So that, if these joint pattas are separated and there is a sort of compulsory subdivision of the holdings, and distinctive numbers are given, it would not be possible for the karnam or the Reddi to defraud the ryots.

"Further, it will also be useful in the preparation of the electoral rolls under the new franchise for the coming reforms, as at present it is found that there is a lot of difficulty in the preparation of the electoral rolls. But if there is compulsory subdivision of these joint pattas it would be easy for the village officers also to prepare the electoral rolls and a much larger franchise also will be given to the villages than can possibly be done if these joint pattas are allowed to continue as they are at present.

"It has also been found in practice that so far as some of the backward districts are concerned, the revenue officers are in the habit of insisting on the village officers to see that the collections are made much earlier than when they are actually due from the ryots. Sometimes, during the very first instalment of the kist the ryots are asked to pay down the entire amount and the village officers are asked to 4-15 p.m. collect the whole amount by a particular date on pain of having to pay it from their own pockets if they do not do so. That works a great hardship not only to ryots but to the village officers also. It has been found that the ryots are compelled to sell their produce even though the prices are very low in order to meet the demands of the village officers and other officers in charge of collection of revenue. I, therefore, should agree with the suggestion put forward by Mr. Krishnayya Choudari that there should be a service of demand notices fixing the dates on which the kist instalments are due as it will be easy then for the ryots to know when the amounts are actually due. It will also give them time to complain if a larger amount is demanded of them than is actually due. This is done in the case of municipalities in regard to collection of municipal taxes. There is no reason why this should not be done in the case of the ryots also in the villages. It will certainly decrease the hardship of the ryots. It will prevent the tahsildars and other officers compelling the village officers to collect amounts within a particular date. At the time of jamabandi a lot of collections are made from the village officers to meet the expenses. So far as the backward districts are concerned one would rather not ask for any allowance for the jamabandi but I think they will be certainly pleased if these jamabandi collections are not made. It is highly necessary that at least the Collectors of each district watch carefully and see that such collections are not made from the village officers, let alone the question of giving any allowance to them for the jamabandi.

"Then as regards the village officers, it has been found that the quality of the village officers is deteriorating very rapidly on account of the policy pursued by the revenue officials. This is mainly due to the fact, as was pointed out by Mr. Appadurai Pillai, that the higher

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revenue officials are not in touch either with the village officers or the ryots. It is found that the village officers are being made the scape-goats in all complaints arising from a quarrel between two ryots or between two factions. Sometimes it happens that a particular village officer coming from a respectable family, who is educated and who does not behave so obsequiously as other village officers, is eliminated and the services of a more obsequious village official are secured, as such men will always be hanging about them and give receptions at the borders of the village. The result is that the proper class of people do not come forward. Government must realize that the village officials are the foundation on which the system of administration is based. If the revenue administration is to be put at a high level it is absolutely necessary that there should exist a better type of village officers. If it is remembered that the entire revenue department is after all a tax-collecting agency and that the actual tax collection is done by the village officers, their emoluments and their difficulties ought to be the first concern of the Government. On the other hand, Government is very anxious that the emoluments of highly paid officials are kept up and they are fattened still more. But when it is a question of village officers and their difficulties, not only are they callous, but it is not a subject which concerns them the least. If you want to keep the system intact, necessity for the proper type of village officers is of the highest importance. The question was raised by Mr. Simhachalam Pantulu that a very large number of village officers who are insolvents were removed by the Board of Revenue. If at the time when a village hereditary officer dies without leaving an issue, when it is to be given to a stranger, sufficient consideration is bestowed upon the question of selection, certainly deterioration will stop. Unfortunately, that is not done and the handiest man who will run from place to place at the bidding of the lowest authority is accepted on his recommendation. It is found that this attitude has been responsible for the village officers deteriorating in their standard."

* The DEPUTY PRESIDENT:—" I think there are many members wishing to speak and the Hon. the Revenue Member has to commence his reply at 4-30."

* Rao Bahadur Subadar-Major S. A. NANJAPPA Bahadur:—" Sir, I have given two cut motions concerning the Public Services Commission and the appointment of the ex-army men. I am not saying much about them. You know that unfortunately the Madras Regiment has been abolished and the ex-army men are suffering for want of appointments. I go to the Hon. the Revenue Member every now and then. He certainly helps. The difficulty is the Government Orders are not working properly. Unless the Collector and other appointing authorities make up their mind they are not given any appointments. Unless the Hon. the Revenue Member reminds them it will be of no use. So I think the Hon. the Revenue Member will help me to get appointments for ex-army men. The second thing is about the communal Govern-

ment Order. Unfortunately, this province or the whole of India is a land of communities. As for the communal Government Order, I do not think it is working properly. I know there are a hundred communities which are other than non-Brahman communities. There were so many committees but the difficulties have not been solved. In answer to questions I asked in the Council, the Hon. the Revenue Member and the other Members in charge of the portfolios replied to me that the Vanniakula Kshatriyas are included in non-Brahman Hindus and they must wait for their turn. There is a class of community called the Vanniakula Kshatriyas whose strength in the Madras presidency is 35 lakhs. What are the Government doing for them? All they say is that they must take their chance. I say they are backward communities. Government say no. Unless they do something for this big community there will be no justice at all. I will explain a few cases here. A B.A. of this community applied for Assistant Superintendent's place. He was a strong sportsman. His claims were rejected. For that place, a thin man of some other community was chosen because he belonged to the community of a member of the Public Services Commission. If I were to select, I won't take him for a sepoy even, because he is such a thin man. He will be unable to face a criminal in the discharge of his duties. I know he is an educated man and he was taken, but there are so many B.A.'s now. My community men are called Vanniyakula Kshatriyas. They are sturdy men and yet they were rejected. Why? Because it was the work of the Public Services Commission. Again, Sir, three people applied for the post of police sub-inspectors. There were fifty-nine vacancies. The applicants were Krishna Rao, Arumugam and Loganathan. All these were graduates. None of them was selected for these fifty-nine vacancies. Other influential people were selected. I do not know why the Vanniyakula Kshatriyas were not selected; probably because this community is not an influential one. Naturally not many of the Vanniyakula Kshatriya people are in Government service. They all can serve in the military. Like me there are many officers. But unfortunately for them, the regiments of my community who served in the Military have been abolished. Where will they go? Unless the Government come forward there will be no way. There must be a committee of public men, officials and non-officials, to enquire into this and prepare a list of non-Brahmans and backward communities, and to bring about rules as to how they should distribute all these appointments. Now, Government say they have no list kept. That is the answer I gathered from the replies given in the Council. The influential class of people are getting all appointments. There should be lists of backward and non-Brahman communities in the Secretariat and in the Public Service Commission office, and the vacancies should be filled according to those lists. This is only a distribution of bread, Sir. Advanced communities take away all appointments. What about the backward communities who are still backward? They cannot see the light of day. I say Government must reopen the question and do something in this line.

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* The Hon. Sir CHARLES SOUTER:—"Mr. Deputy President, Sir, the range of debate covered a wide field and I think hon. Members will agree with me that it is impossible within the time at my command to touch on everything. I will try, however, to comment on the wide questions which were raised and give the assurance that in matters of detail I will have them separately examined. I think, first of all, as it is fresh in my mind, I would refer to my hon. Friend, the Subadar-Major's comments on the representation of the backward communities. I have already told the House definitely that I am not prepared to go into the question of re-examination of the proportion of representation amongst the various communities, i.e., Brahmans, non-Brahmans, Indian Christians, Muhammadans and so on. But these backward communities have sent a representation to the effect that they will be quite content to receive at least one representative from amongst those who are now classed as non-Brahman communities. I promise to have that aspect of the matter examined. Further than that I cannot promise to go. 4-30 p.m. Sir, I will certainly remind Collectors of the orders which have been passed, and which I hope they are carrying out even now, to give preference, wherever it is feasible under the Government Orders, to sons and dependants of people who served in the army.

"Now, Sir, one of the wide questions raised to-day was about the village officers. If I am to believe my hon. Friends, Mr. Simhachalam, Mr. Narasa Reddi and a few others, the village officers are certainly a very badly treated body of men. But if I am going to believe my hon. Friend, Diwan Bahadur R. Srinivasan and one or two others, I must understand that they are the most undesirable set of people. I suppose I must steer a course between these two extreme views. My own impression is that just like anybody else some of them are good and some bad. But to say that they are badly treated by Government is, I think, not to state the facts correctly. Certainly I do not see how it is possible to increase their pay. I have to ask the House to remember that a recent investigation has shown that the proportion of cost of the establishment of general administration in this presidency is higher than anywhere else in India. The sole reason for that is that we pay our village officers not less than one crore and twenty-three lakhs every year out of our total General Administration charges. It is an enormous sum. Their pay has been increased only during the last 15 or 20 years from Rs. 72 lakhs to Rs. 123 lakhs. The hon. Members will therefore see that the revenues of the province will hardly bear an increase of even a rupee in respect of the pay of each of these officers, without incurring a very large aggregate expenditure. To add to that, an increase in their travelling allowance—even to the amount which they get now—will mean that our total bill will be unbearable. I trust hon. Members before they make suggestions of this kind will look into these figures and see the burden which is already imposed upon us. I said that our average cost under General Administration in this presidency is higher than anywhere else in India. If we deduct the pay of

the village establishments from it, our average cost then will be much less than it is elsewhere in India. (Interruption.) In some places, indeed they pay nothing at all to village officers. Therefore it is that our cost has gone up so much higher than the rest of India. There are one or two points which are of detail, brought forward especially by my Friends, Mr. Krishnayya Choudari and Mr. G. Simhachalam and I will have them examined.

"The next question which was one generally commented upon was the question of jamabandi. Well, Sir, when I was a young man in service, we conducted jamabandis much as Mr. Krishnayya Choudari and others would like. I can remember the delightful old days when I used to go about, travel over ten miles, camp in one set of tents, stay there for three or four days and see all the country around and move to the next camp, stay in another set of tents and thus have a procession as it were through my subdivision. The great advantage I had was to get to know my subdivision. But it meant that each village had to contribute very largely towards the jamabandi fund, and it was very difficult for them to afford it. And for the latter reason the Government said that we need not have these extensive jamabandis because it was too much of a burden on the ryot, and I myself think that that reason is a very strong one. I quite agree that the divisional officer now-a-days does not get to know his subdivision as we used to. We used to go on horseback and see the people. But still if we so went, they must pay for it. It cannot come out of public revenues; it can only come out of the village jamabandi fund, which I do know used to exist for this purpose. I do not think under present conditions it will ever be possible to go back to those olden days. (Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari: 'Can you not send the officers to go and see?') To send the officers again is to have the jamabandi fund in a modified form.

"Then, there is the question of the village officers being summoned too often to the headquarters. I am sorry to hear this, because definite orders have been passed by the Government on the matter, and I hope effect is being given to them. I should like to know the cases in which these orders have been departed from, so that we can take due notice of them. (Interruption.) Mr. Krishnayya Choudari says he can bring hundreds of cases. I should like to have one or two, and I shall take steps to stop the general practice.

"There was one point raised as regards the pattas; mainly there was criticism of joint pattas and the opportunities they gave to extort money from some of the holders of the joint pattas. This I presume was the case referred to by Diwan Bahadur R. Srinivasan, when he characterized village officers as rogues and scoundrels. There is no one more anxious than myself that there should be as few joint pattas as possible. Surely the joint pattadars themselves must take steps to remove the evil. Why should we do anything? After all, we will be interfering with the man's private rights. Why compel him to give

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up his rights? Surely in the Board's Standing Orders there is every provision for any one who wishes to have a separate patta of his own to get it. As I said, the revenue officers themselves are against it just as anybody else because our district accounts and district collections are complicated by the existence of these joint pattas. I should very much prefer if separate pattas were issued for sub-holders. As regards the idea, one man one patta, I fancy it is very difficult to achieve. The holdings in the village are scattered, and it is much more convenient for the karnam to maintain his No. 14 account or No. 10 account or whatever it is to have the fields separately marked and the pattas put in the order in which fields are marked in the survey plan. I do not think there is force in the contention that one man should have only one patta for all his holdings in one village. Because if it is stretched to its logical conclusion, it will mean one patta for all his holdings everywhere; he may have holdings in various villages.

"Then, Sir, another point was brought up as regards frequent changes in the tenure of officers, particularly of revenue officers. No one can deplore this more than myself as I told the House the other day. But circumstances very often force these changes on us. As regards the I.C.S. officers, for instance, whenever an I.C.S officer comes back from leave, he has to be posted somewhere. The number of officers on leave extends to twenty per cent of the total cadre sometimes. Especially at the beginning of the cold weather, when a large number of officers return from leave, we have to distribute them over either divisions or districts. As regards divisional charges too, I think our rules say that once a man is posted to act as Deputy Collector he begins his probation from that date. If we put in a junior man to act in that place, it may be the senior who has already begun his probation will be superseded later on by his junior. The remedy for that of course will not be a popular one, and that is to increase the period during which the temporary occupation of a post shall count for probation. At present it is three months. If you extend it to six months, it would save a considerable amount of transfers. But hon. Members will see also that it will seriously affect the confirmation of those officers who have already put in probation. I may assure hon. Members that I have given instructions to the Board of Revenue to see that these transfers are effected as infrequently as possible after considering all aspects of the case.

"Then, the point was raised that the pattadar should be given a demand notice of the amount due from him. Now, I doubt really whether those of us who know district work will think it is necessary. I do not think you will find in most villages half a dozen people who do not know the amount they have to pay on their pattas. They pay it year after year, and they know what they have to pay on each patta. I do not think myself that it is going to do so much good as to prevent the village officers from having illicit gains. My own experience is that most men do know already what they have to pay, and they do not need telling what it is.

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" Well, Sir, certain questions were raised as regards depressed classes. Now, I am sorry to have to admit that many of those complaints are true, and there is no doubt about it that the depressed classes have in a large number of cases been treated badly. One definite case was quoted from the Lalgudi taluk in the Trichinopoly district. I happen to know that case is correct for the reason that the papers passed through me just the other day. There was a certain public well of which the depressed classes wanted to use the water, and the caste people objecting, there was a possibility of a riot, and it was found necessary to have a police force around the well in order that caste people might not prevent the use of the water by the depressed classes. That is a very definite case which came to my notice. There are other cases too. To say that you can stop it by passing orders is I am afraid too optimistic a view. A change there should only come from amongst the caste people themselves and from a change in their attitude towards their less fortunate brethren. That cannot be imposed from above. It can only come from within; and, Sir, more than that it is impossible
4.45 p.m. for me to say. So far as the troubles in the way of Panchamas—Harijans as you might like to call the depressed classes—getting land are concerned, that is certainly a matter in which Government can intervene. There again, I know from my personal experience there are many cases in which obstruction has been placed in their way. I think it is less now than what it used to be. I should be very much obliged indeed, if any case in which this has happened or is said to be present is brought to my notice and I will see that proper enquiries are made. Then as regards the case referred to by Mr. Rajagopal Pillai I presume the hon. Member is referring to some darkhasts, but I shall have the matter looked into again. Then, Sir, Mr. Appadurai Pillai does not like the idea of separate recruitment for the Secretariat establishment. I fear I cannot agree with him. After all the work in the Secretariat is of an extremely efficient and special character. I ask the House to remember that one mistake made in the Secretariat is of far greater consequence than hundreds of mistakes in Collectors' offices. Therefore, it is very necessary that we should have among our staff here the most efficient body of men we can get. No doubt this does not prevent us from getting men from outside. If any particularly brilliant men outside are heard of we can always get them here. But what we do think is we should recruit men possessing particular qualifications and train them in the way they should go, in order that we may have a very good set of men. I should be very sorry indeed, if we allowed the standard in the Secretariat to be lowered, because I hear from various sources and from no less a source than one of the members of the recent committee over which Sir Henry Wheeler presided, that in his opinion the Madras Secretariat is by far the best he has seen; that is, it has lived up to its reputation, and we should not take the chance of losing that reputation by importing men who are not of the requisite standard. Then, Sir, I think Mr. Devadasan objected to conduct certificates being required of candidates for admission to public services. The matter is quite

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simple. I myself had to get certificates before admission to the service, and not only school-master's certificates. As regards typewriting qualification for clerks, I think within a short time we shall have abolished it.

"There is one more question which has an important aspect, that is the direct recruitment of sub-magistrates, deputy tahsildars and tahsildars. As regards this, we are contemplating a revision of the system which we have had before of having direct recruitment of deputy tahsildars. I hope hon. Members will understand that this direct recruitment, especially in the Revenue department, can never be very extensive. After all revenue work is specialized work, and the work of administration cannot be learnt without long years of practice. We have found, of course, that the officers we have chosen to occupy posts like tahsildar's and deputy collector's have justified our selection. I would even prefer to recruit directly as we did before to the cadre of revenue inspectors, where we can give them the ground work and see whether they are fit, as proved by their work, to be deputy tahsildars. That is the best way of approaching the problem. I will examine the whole question again.

"I don't think, Sir, there is anything else of very general interest that I should reply to. I hear some slight whisperings about corruption. I am told there is any amount of it. I was asked, I think by Mr. Krishnayya Choudari, to have a special C.I.D. committee to report instances of corruption. I see that my hon. Friend, Sir Parasuram, shakes his head in entire approval. Would he care to be president of the committee? That corruption does exist we admit. But we cannot stop it by means like that. I doubt very much whether the committee in the Punjab or United Provinces will be able to effect any great improvement. It can only be stopped if the House does not monkey about with the pay of the public services and secondly, when we get in our services men of sufficient status and with a certain amount of self-respect. Without these two things we cannot stop it. All I can say is, if those who are already in service set an example to those coming after, corruption will cease to exist. No communal Government Order, no Government Order of any kind can stop it. If my hon. Friend thinks that the district officials do not know that a tahsildar or sub-magistrate is corrupt, he is very much mistaken. They know quite well who is corrupt. The difficulty is to prove it, for the corrupt man is usually too clever a man to be caught. The only other point I must refer to is that of my Friend, Mrs. Lakshmipathi. I generally take up her remarks in the beginning, but I have reserved them to the last on this occasion. She said that we on the front bench, that we Englishmen, should work in a spirit of love and sympathy towards India. To that my reply is that I have always attempted to do so. I love India and I love Indians and I don't mind admitting it that I have the highest regard for my friend opposite."

Mr. G. R. PREMAYYA :—" The Hon. the Revenue Member very cleverly and wittily answered all the questions, but he cleverly avoided one thing, that is, the statement in the judgment of an I.C.S. officer as published in the papers. It is thus stated there: 'had this man been beaten with a shoe two years ago, it would not have been taken as an insult.' This is found in the judgment delivered by Mr. Gallette, I.C.S. If the Hon. Member promises that he will have this removed from the text of the judgment, I have no objection to withdraw my amendment."

The Hon. Sir CHARLES SOUTER :—" I promise to make enquiries in the matter."

Mr. G. R. PREMAYYA :—" Then I withdraw."

The cut motion was by leave withdrawn.

The main Demand was then put and carried and the Grant was made.

The House then adjourned to meet again at 11 a.m. the next day.

D. K. V. RAGHAVA VARMA,
Acting Secretary to the Legislative Council.

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APPENDIX.

[Vide answer to question No. 980 asked by Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 18th March 1936, page 477 supra.]

(i)

G.O. Ms. No. 3464, L. & M., dated 27th August 1935.

READ—the following:—

From the President, District Board, Kurnool, dated the 28th June 1935, No. A-2-2175/34.

From the Director of Public Instruction, dated the 5th August 1935, No. 1598-G/35.

Order—Ms. No. 3464. L. & M., dated 27th August 1935.

An extract from the remarks of the Director of Public Instruction with which the Government agree is communicated to the President, District Board, Kurnool.

(By order of the Government, Ministry of Education and Excise)

M. V. SANKARA VARIAR,
Assistant Secretary to Government.

To the President, District Board, Kurnool (with paragraph 1 of the Director of Public Instruction's remarks).

Extract from the remarks of the Director of Public Instruction, dated the 5th August 1935, *N. Reference on Cur. No.* 1598-G/35.

The employment of a combined instructor for physical training and drawing has been permitted with a view to minimizing the expenditure of managements in this regard in the case of schools with relatively smaller strength, as otherwise they will have to employ two separate instructors for the two subjects under the rules. This system, though educationally unsound, has been allowed to continue more as a transitional measure in the interest of the management. The combined instructor cannot, therefore, claim any higher scale of pay than that to which he would be entitled, if he taught only one of the two subjects. Hence the scale of pay of Rs. 25—2/2—45 sanctioned in G.O. No. 4619, L. & M., dated 20th October 1934, may be made to apply to the combined instructors also.

(ii)

G.O. Ms. No. 698, L. & M., dated 20th February 1936.

READ—the following:—

From the President, District Board, Kistna, dated the 27th January 1936, No. 5988/35

From the Teachers, Kistna District Board.

Order—Ms. No. 698, *L. & M., dated 20th February* 1936.

The combined physical training and drawing masters in secondary schools cannot be allowed a higher scale of pay than that allowed for teaching only one of the two subjects.

(By order of the Government, Ministry of Education and Public Health)

M. T. DURAISWAMI AYYANGAR,
Assistant Secretary to Government.

To the President, District Board, Kistna.

THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF THE GOVERNOR OF MADRAS.

Thursday, the 19th March 1936.

The House met at eleven of the clock, Mr. President (the hon. Mr. B. Ramachandra Reddi) in the Chair.

PRESENT :

Reddi Nayudu, *Kt.*, The Hon. Rai Bahadur Sir K. V.
Pannirselvam, The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T.
Souter, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., I.C.S., The Hon. Sir Charles.
Bracken, C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S., The Hon. Mr. G. T. H.
Raja of Bobbili, K.C.I.E., The Hon. the.
Rajan, The Hon. Mr. P. T.
Kumaraswami Reddiyar, The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S.
Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur.
Ahmed Meeran Sahib Bahadur.
Alamelumangathayaramma, Mrs. K.
Annamalai Chettiyar, Mr. S. A. A.
Appadurai Pillai, Diwan Bahadur A.
Arasu, Mr. V. T.
Basheer Ahmed Sayeed Sahib Bahadur.
Basu Dev, Mr. C.
Boag, C.I.E., I.C.S., Mr. G. T.
Dalavoi, Mr. R.
Devadasan, Mr. M.
Dharmalingam Pillai, Rao Sahib V.
Duraiswami Reddiyar, Mr. K. M.
Foulkes, Mr. G. F. F.
Gopalaswami Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur M.
Halasyam Ayyar, Mr. N.
Harischandrudu Nayudu, Mr. A.
Indrayya, Mr. C.
Iswaran Pillai, Mr. I. C.
Jagannatha Raju, Rao Babadur G.
Jagannatham, Mr. H. M.
Jayaram Nayudu, Rao Sahib C.
Jones, I.C.S., Mr. C. E.
Kesavaramamurti Nayudu, Mr. K.
Khalif-ul-lah Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur P.
Kolanda Reddi, Rai Sahib C.
Koti Reddi, Mr. K.
Krishnayya Choudari, Mr. P. V.
Krishnamurti, Rao Bahadur D.
Kumararaja of Venkatagiri, The.
Kuppuswami Choudari, Mr. J.
Madanagopal Nayudu, Mr. R.
Maharaja of Venkatagiri, The.
Manikkavelu Nayakar, Mr. M. A.
Moidoo Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur T. M.
Moses, Mr. P. C.
Muhammad Meera Ravuttar Bahadur, K. P. V. S.
Muniswami Pillai, Rao Sahib V. I.
Nachiyappa Gounder, Mr. K. A.
Nadimuthu Pillai, Mr. A. Pl. N. V.
Nanjappa Bahadur, Rao Babadur Subadar-Major S. A.
Narasa Reddi, Mr. T.
Narasimhaswami, Rao Sahib D. V.
Narayanan Nambiyar, Mr. V. P.
Natesa Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur C.
Palat, Mr. R. M.
Parthasarathi Ayyangar, Mr. C. R.
Patnaik Mahasayo, Sriman M. G.
Patro, K.C.I.E., Rao Bahadur Sir A. P.
Peddi Raju, Mr. P.
Pocker Sahib Bahadur, B.
Premayya, Mr. G. R.
Rajagopala Pillai, Mr. P. V.
Ramachandra Padayachi, Mr. P. K.
Ramakrishna Reddi, Mr. A.
Ramalingam Chettiyar, Diwan Bahadur T. A.
Ramalinga Reddi, Mr. C.
Ramamurti, Rao Sahib Pandit Ganala.
Raman Menon, Mr. K. P.
Ramaswami Ayyar, Mr. T. S.
Ramaswami Mudaliyar, Mr. V. M.
Rameswara Rao, Mr. G.
Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. A.
Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. G.
Ranganatham, Mr N.
Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur C. S.
Ratnavelu Thevar, Mr. P.
Reid, Mr. D. M.
Rukmani Lakshmipathi, Mrs. A.
Russell, I.C.S., *Mr. T. B.*
Santhana Gounder, Mr. I.
Schamnad Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur Mahmud.
Scott Brown, I.C.S., Mr. W.
Sesha Reddi, Rao Bahadur Mr. B. P.
Shetty, Mr. A. B.
Simhachalam Pantulu, Mr. G.
Siva Raj, Rao Sahib N.
Sivasubrahmanya Ayyar, Mr. K. S.
Smith, Mr. J. M.
Sreshta, Mr. M. S.

PRESENT—*cont.*

Srinivasan, Diwan Bahadur R.
Sriramulu, Mr. G.
Subbarayan, Dr. P.
Subrahmanya Bhatt, Mr. U. C.
Sundara Rao Nayudu, Mr. T.
Syed Tajuddin Sahib Bahadur, Khan Sahib.
Thangal, Mr. P. M.
Thomas, Mr. Daniel.
Uzielli, C.I.E., I.C.S., Mr. H. R.
Vasudeva Pillai, Mr. V. G.
Venugopal Nayudu, Rao Bahadur R. K.
Wright, *Kt.*, Sir William.
Yahya Ali Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur.
Yakub Hasan Sahib Bahadur.
Zamindar of Bodinayakkanur, The.
Zamindar of Kirlampudi, The.
Zamindar of Mirzapuram, The.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS

Industries

Employment of pupils trained at the Kerala Soap Institute.

* 982 *Q.*—Sir WILLIAM WRIGHT: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many pupils have passed through the Kerala Soap Institute in each year since its inception; and

(*b*) how many of these pupils are now engaged in soap manufacture?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) A statement[a] is appended showing the number of pupils who have undergone training in the Kerala Soap Institute, Calicut, since the inception of the scheme of training in 1927 and the number of ex-students who are now engaged in soap manufacture so far as information is available.

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" May I ask the Hon. Minister whether the Government are doing anything to set up these people in the soap industry? "

The Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—" They are doing nothing except training them."

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—" May I know from the Hon. Minister whether the number shown as being engaged in the soap manufacture and allied industries is that of persons running private enterprises or includes those employed in Government Soap Factory itself? "

The Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—" I have no information on the point."

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—" Will the Hon. Minister consider the suggestion that those who come out of this Institute after training in soap manufacture are given encouragement by Government by means of loans under the State Aid to Industries Act? "

The Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—" Under that Act loans can be given only to nascent industries and not to industries which are flourishing."

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[a] Printed as Appendix I on page 609 infra.

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Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" May I ask whether the Government have considered any scheme for taking up soap manufacture as a cottage industry? "

The Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—" These students are trained to carry on manufacture of soap as a cottage industry."

Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI:—" May I know from the Hon. Minister whether, if any district board comes forward to take this up as a cottage industry, the Government will permit it to do so? "

The Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—" That is a matter for my Hon. Colleague in charge of Local Self-Government."

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—" May I know what the terms and conditions of recruitment to this Institute are? "

The Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—" They are given training. There are no conditions."

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—" May I know the qualifications prescribed for recruitment as apprentices to this Institute? "

The Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—" The hon. Member can apply for a copy of the prospectus, Sir, to the Superintendent of the Institute."

Liability of the party in boring operations conducted by the Department of Industries in cases of accidents or damage to tools.

* 983 *Q.*—Mr. G. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there is a rule, in boring operations by the Department of Industries, that the private party at whose instance the operations are being carried on, should bear the cost of the Government tools employed for the purpose in case of accidents or damage to the tools, if the boring is made more than 150 feet deep;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that the boring operations are performed and the tools are being handled by the departmental staff alone, and whether the private party is only required according to the rules to supply the necessary labour to help the departmental staff; and

(*c*) if the answer to (*b*) is in the affirmative, what the object is in making the private party liable to pay the damages to the tools?

A.—(*a*) Yes; when the party wishes hand-boring drilling operations to be continued below 150 feet regardless of consequences.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) Operations below 150 feet are risky and if the risk is undertaken at the instance of the party he is required to pay for it.

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Registration

Imposition of stamp fees on applications made to the Registration department.

* 984 *Q.*—Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Government have issued an order requiring that a stamp fee of 2 annas should accompany every application for search of a document in the Registration offices; if so, will the Hon. Member be pleased to state under what provision of law has the said fee been ordered and will the Hon. Minister be pleased to place a copy of the same on the table;

(*b*) whether Government have consulted the Hon. the Advocate-General or the other law officers of the Government regarding the legality of the said levy and will the Government be pleased to place a copy of their opinion on the table of the House;

(*c*) whether it is a fact that under the Registration Act merely by paying the search fees a party is entitled to search in any registration office; and

(*d*) what action have the Government taken or propose to take in the matter?

A.—(*a*) Under the power vested in them by section 78 of the Indian Registration Act, 1908, the Local Government have directed that a fixed fee of two annas payable in cash shall be charged in respect of every application made to a registering officer for an inspection, a search or a copy or extract of any document on record in a registration office. The attention of the hon. Member is invited to Law (Registration) Department Notification No. 3, dated 20th January 1936, published at page 83 of Part I of the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 28th January 1936.

(*b*) The answer to the first part of the question is in the negative and the second part does not arise.

(*c*) Under section 57 of the Indian Registration Act, any person who makes an application to inspect books Nos. 1 and 2 in a registration office can do so on payment of the prescribed fees.

(*d*) The Government do not propose to take any action in the matter.

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—" Have the Government considered the question whether they have power to levy additional fee? "

The Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—" Yes, Sir."

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—" What is the new state of things that has arisen now? "

The Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—" There is nothing new about it."

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Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt:—" May I know why it was found necessary to levy this fee?"

The Hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan:—" The department has not got sufficient money to meet the expenses without this supplementary income."

Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder:—" May I ask the Hon. Minister on whose proposal this levy has been introduced—whether it is the proposal of the Government or of the department?"

The Hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan:—" I think the Inspector-General of Registration was asked to examine the question as to how best to balance the budget of the department, and, in pursuance of that examination this was done."

Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari:—" What is the probable sum they expect to realize in this way?"

The Hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan:—" About Rs. 30,000."

Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder:—" Since the legality of this levy has been questioned here, may I know whether the Hon. Minister will consider the matter and consult the law officers and come to some definite conclusion?"

The Hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan:—" The legality of what is questioned and by whom?"

Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari:—" May I ask whether the Government are aware that on account of depression the income from registration fees has already gone down and that it is not advisable to increase taxation on account of the likelihood of the income going down further?"

The Hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan:—" If it is said on the one hand that the income has gone down, and on the other that more offices are wanted, how can we meet the demand without additional funds?"

Railways

Construction of a railway between Tinnevelly and Panagudi.

* 985 *Q.*—Mr. M. Devadasan: Will the Hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) how long the construction of a railway from Tinnevelly to Panagudi has been under the consideration of the Government;

(*b*) whether any survey was made by the Government; and

(*c*) whether lands were sought to be acquired for that purpose?

A.—As the hon. Member is aware 'Railways' is a Central subject, but the information in the possession of this Government is furnished below:—

(*a*) Proposals for the construction of the line were first made by the South Indian Railway in 1882–83.

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(b) A survey was made by the South Indian Railway in 1926.

(c) The Government have no information.

Mr. M. DEVADASAN :—" May I know whether the Government will be pleased to address the Central Government on this matter? "

The Hon. Mr. G. T. H. BRACKEN :—" At the present moment, Sir, railways are in a bad state. I see very little prospect of this line paying unless it is extended to Travancore and it depends upon the Travancore Government. I do not think the moment is opportune to press the matter."

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR :—" May I know whether the local boards are permitted to address the Local Government in this matter? "

The Hon. Mr. G. T. H. BRACKEN :—" Notice, Sir."

Relations with Indian States

Muslim political pensioners in the Presidency.

* 986 *Q.*—S. M. K. BEYABANI SAHIB Bahadur: Will the Hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to place on the table of the House a list showing the state of Muslim political pensioners in the Presidency under the following heads:—

(i) the name of the last ruler;

(ii) name of the State and the date of the annexation;

(iii) names of the pensioners and the amount each was drawing after the annexation;

(iv) the total number of the present political pensioners of each State;

(v) total amount drawn by them;

and to state—

(a) whether Government have received any representations from time to time to redress their grievances; and

(b) what was the action taken?

A.—First part, clauses (i) *to* (v) As the hon. Member is aware the Local Government are merely the agents of the Government of India in regard to this matter. The Local Government consider that it is not in the public interest to publish the information asked for in the above clauses.

Second part, clauses (a) *&* (b) Yes. Representations have from time to time been received and investigated.

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—" May I draw the attention of the Hon. Member to the answer to the previous question in which they say that the subject is a central subject and yet have given some

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answer? Cannot the Government give the same answer to this question also though it is a central subject? "

The Hon. Mr. G. T. H. Bracken:—" I have given such information as is possible under the circumstances."

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan:—" The Hon. Member will please see that he has not given any answer."

The Hon. Mr. G. T. H. Bracken:—" As it is a central subject, I am afraid it is not open to me to give any further information."

Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar:—" May I know the nature of the grievances about which representations were received from time to time? "

The Hon. Mr. G. T. H. Bracken:—" It is not in the public interest to enter into details."

[*Note.*—**An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.**]

II.—ACTS ASSENTED TO BY HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR.

* The Hon. the President:—" I have to announce that the undermentioned Acts received the assent of His Excellency the Governor on the dates mentioned against each:—

(1) The Madras Revenue (Miscellaneous Amendments) Act, 1936—11th March 1936.

(2) The Madras Betting Tax (Amendment) Act, 1936—11th March 1936."

III.—BUDGET FOR 1936-37—VOTING OF DEMANDS FOR GRANTS—*cont.*

DEMAND XI—MINISTERS, CIVIL SECRETARIATS AND MISCELLANEOUS—TRANSFERRED.

* The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—" Mr. President, I beg to move, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor—

'*that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs.* 4,92,200 *under Demand XI—Ministers, Civil Secretariats and Miscellaneous—Transferred.*' "

Mrs. A. Rukmani Lakshmipathi:—" I move the cut motion to reduce the allotment of Rs. 1,74,000 for Ministers—Pay of Officers by Rs. 100, Mr. President, undeterred by the fact that on the previous occasion a motion of a similar nature expressing want of confidence in the Ministry was moved and discussed in this House and was rejected by this very same House. I know, Sir, what the fate of my motion is going to be. I would not for a moment be discouraged by an adverse

vote of this House. My intention in moving this no-confidence motion is to give expression to the feeling that is prevailing outside this House.

" Mr. President, Sir, the Ministers and the party in power may gloat over the idea that my motion is doomed to failure and may feel perfectly safe and secure in their seats. But, at the same time, they cannot ignore the fact that if at all there is any political party in this part of the country which stands most discredited to-day, it is no other party but the Justice Party.

" It has very often been repeated both in this House and outside in the wider world that the present Ministry has no justification whatsoever to continue any longer in office, because they remain in office on sufferance—by mere executive acts, by the strength of the party which has supported the Ministry through thick and thin and not because of the popularity that they enjoy outside this House. The Legislative Council by-elections as also the elections to the Legislative Assembly and the elections to almost every district board in this Presidency bear testimony to the fact that the Justice Party and the Ministry have completely forfeited the confidence of the electorate; because it is the electorate that is the real master of the situation. It is the electorate that has to decide which party is to be in power. When the electorate has unequivocally decided against them, I ask the Ministry whether they have any justification whatsoever to remain any longer in office, and whether it is constitutional propriety for them to continue any longer. If I were the Chief Minister, I would straightaway resign my place and seek re-election because the Ministry does not enjoy the confidence of even the Reserved Half. The Hon. the Chief Minister almost admitted this the other day on the question of the extension of the life of the Council. He said sometime back that he knew nothing about the extension of the life of the present Council. He admitted that he was not consulted by the Reserved Half. (Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari: Have you resigned after the extension?) Mr. President, Sir, I do not wish to be interrupted. The hon. Member may reply in whatever manner he pleases when his turn comes. To continue, Sir, that the present Ministry does not enjoy the confidence even of the Reserved Half goes a great way against them. Take all the by-elections in the city and also the elections in the various districts. There has been a complete rout of their party candidates.

-15 " Late in the evening yesterday, we received news from Ranipet firka that the Justice Party candidate, Mrs. Balasubramaniam was badly defeated and the Congress candidate has come out successful in a very large majority. What does this indicate? Does it not indicate that the opinion of the electorate is that this Ministry does not enjoy the confidence of the people and the country? I would therefore advise the Ministry to resign at once and I wish to take this opportunity of throwing down the gauntlet to the Hon. the Raja of Bobbili and let him take it up and see whether he can withstand the challenge successfully.

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" When the Hon. the Education Minister came into office I remember his having admitted that the Elementary Education Act was defective in many ways. I wonder whether the Hon. Minister for Education has done anything to rectify the defects and whether he thought of sponsoring an amending Bill to rectify them. It has been admitted . . ."

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar :—" Mr. President, I may say that two amending Bills have been passed."

Mr. V. T. Arasu :—" What she refers to is a consolidated amending Bill."

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar :—" The hon. Lady Member was speaking of amending Bills."

Mrs. A. Rukmani Lakshmipathi :—" It has been admitted by Mr. Champion that the programme of elementary education in this Province has been a failure and the Government have not been able to show any advance even by one inch. In the matter of elementary education the Hon. Minister has not been able to do anything worth the name.

" Sir, the Justice Party ever since it came into office has been laying claim to many programmes and many achievements which have partially proved a failure. What about the co-operative credit societies? The co-operative credit societies have, I am sorry to say, not proved very successful, because most of them have become financially very bad, if not absolutely insolvent. Then again in the matter of the Hindu Religious Endowments Board, the Chief Minister, instead of leaving the entire management of the endowments to the Board itself, is interfering in every detail of its working, even in the matter of appointments of trustees. I do not see any reason why the Chief Minister should interfere with every detail and put in his own party men. In fact, the administration of the Transferred departments, particularly the administration of the Local Self-Government Department, goes to show that the whole thing is based on encouraging their own party men to satisfy their grievances, needs and desires, so much so that the administration of local boards has been brought to rack and ruin. It has been repeated many a time, both here and outside the House, how the Chief Minister has brought the administration to rack and ruin—I mean the administration of district boards. In the appointment of commissioners and panchayat officers, the Hon. the Raja of Bobbili has appointed no other but his own party men,—as I have said before, to meet the needs of his own party men. Then, again, a few months ago when my hon. Friend and leader, Mr. C. R. Reddi, took part in the Attili adjournment motion, the Chief Minister's uncalled-for interference in every detail connected with the local boards' administration was the subject of severe criticism. So far as Attili affair is concerned, Mr. President, instead of leaving the dispute to the decision of a judicial authority, the Chief Minister sent a wire from here to the polling officer to stop the counting of the votes when the actual counting of the votes was

being proceeded with. He could have left it to the parties to have their grievances redressed in a Court of Law. A judicial authority is better fitted to enquire into the whole matter and come to a decision than the Hon. the Chief Minister.

"Then, again, there are various other instances to show the maladministration of the Hon. the Chief Minister. In the matter of nominations, particularly in the matter of bifurcation of district boards, in the matter of extending the lives of the various district boards and in the matter of reshuffling the electoral circles, as in the case of the South Arcot district board and also in the case of Cuddapah where the electoral circles were reconstituted just on the eve of elections, things have been done to meet the wishes of his own party men. In the case of the Cuddapah District Board, the Hon. the Chief Minister had to do the reshuffling in order to satisfy the President of that District Board. In the matter of appointing the district board presidents, when the election to a district board is over and when the election of the president to that district board is pending, instead of handing over the administration to the collector during the interregnum, the Chief Minister allows the old president of the district board to continue still in office. In Tinnevelly the Chief Minister allowed the old president of the district board to continue to function. In the South Arcot district he did the same thing. In the normal course of events, the procedure should be to ask the collector to take over the administration. I do not know why the Chief Minister reverses the old order of things. So far as Chingleput District Board election is concerned, it took place before the term of the old president was over and the Chief Minister interfered and asked the collector to take over the administration. It was the business of the Chief Minister to ask the old president of the District Board of Chingleput to resign his presidentship and hand over the administration of the board to the collector before his period expired. In the case of Tinnevelly and Trichinopoly district boards, he allowed the old presidents to continue. I ask how far the Chief Minister has used his powers properly or abused them. Sir, the Ministers are the trustees of the people. They are supposed to carry on the administration of the Transferred departments as trustees of the people and I ask how far they have been able to fulfil their pledges? This question remains to be answered.

"Then, again, Sir, so far as the Excise policy of the Ministry is concerned, I am afraid I cannot spare them in this particular regard also. The Justice Party Ministry, when it first came into power, boldly came out with a declaration that the goal of prohibition would be achieved in a period of not more than twenty years. I ask the Hon. the Excise Minister, the Hon. Mr. Kumaraswami Reddiyar, whether he has done anything to fulfil the pledge which his party gave to the country. Instead of fulfilling their promise and bringing about prohibition, at least temperance, the Hon. the Excise Minister has done nothing except to increase the number of arrack shops. As somebody

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remarked the other day,—I think it was Mr. Nachiyappa Gounder, that said that the price of liquor has been reduced by 25 per cent. If the Ministry really mean well of the people, I wonder if the Minister for Excise is justified in reducing the selling price of arrack or toddy or whatever it is. I think the Justice Party Ministry has absolutely forfeited or lost the confidence of the people and they have no business to remain even a minute longer."

Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder:—" May I ask you, Mr. President, whether this is going to be discussed as a separate motion and voted upon or others too will be allowed to speak on it as if on a motion of policy and the motion voted in the end? "

The Hon. the President:—" It all depends upon the number of persons that are going to take part in the discussion of this particular motion. If the discussion is to go on and several Members take part therein, it will be put along with other motions and one vote taken for all. But if discussion does not continue upon this, it shall be put to vote as a separate motion."

* Mr. K. Koti Reddi:—" Mr. President, Sir, in supporting the motion that has been moved by the hon. the lady Member from Madras City I do not propose to traverse the whole ground in a general way and recount all the acts of commission and omission of this Ministry. We have done it many a time and we may still have to do it when the other demands connected with the Transferred departments come up for discussion here. At present I would confine my attention as far as possible to one or two matters which clearly show that the Ministry, particularly the Chief Minister in the administration of his department has done woeful wrong to the country and has not had the slightest sense of fairness or justice in dealings concerning the rights of the people at large. If to-day, Sir, I speak strongly it is because I feel strongly on the matter. The Ministry have been saying that they are in existence for the sake of 97 per cent of the population. I believe the other three per cent also are included according to the latest amendment of the constitution of the Justice Party. But I submit, Sir, that they exist for their party and for their party members alone and not for the people. I am going to show how unfair the Chief Minister has been in his treatment of the district of Cuddapah in connexion with the constitution of circles and change of reserved seats in the district board. I shall give one or two samples. If I do not go beyond that, I take refuge in the well-known Telugu proverb which when translated means this 'if you want to find out whether the rice in the rice pot is cooked or not, you need not examine all the particles of rice; it is enough if you examine one of them.' Similarly I am going to put to test whether the arrangements in Cuddapah to which the Hon. the Chief Minister has been a party are fair, just and equitable and are inspired by a sense of fairness and equity or whether they have been guided by the sole consideration of the existence of his

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party. The other day when I put a supplementary question to the Hon. the Chief Minister whether it is not a fact that so early as April last a petition that was put in by certain members of the district board was rejected on the ground that it was late and whether on the initiative of the very same members the question was reopened again, the Chief Minister appeared to me to prevaricate. He asserted that when the petition came originally it was from individual members and when it came again it was from the district board and therefore he had to consider it. I challenge that statement, Sir. I am going to assert on the floor of this House that before the matter came up before the district board these very members whose petition had been rejected, came to Madras and put in a petition before the Chief Minister for the very same changes and that it was that petition that was referred to the district board for its opinion. So early as 4th April 1935 a petition was put in by Mr. C. L. Narasimha Reddi and ten or eleven other members of the district board asking the Minister to make certain changes in the circles and the reservation of seats. On the 19th August, after nearly three and a half months, after the Government had enough time to consider the matter, they passed an order saying that it was too late to consider the petition. By that time the preliminary electoral rolls had been prepared and 15th September was the date fixed for publication of the final rolls. But, Sir, these very numbers, as soon as the order was received in Cuddapah ran up to Madras to the Chief Minister's bungalow or his office—I do not know which it does not matter—and made the same representations. I do not know what made the Chief Minister go back on the order that had been passed four or five days back. He sent back the petition newly presented on to the president, district board, asking him to call a special meeting of the board and send the opinion of the board thereon. Then it was, Sir, that these very members sent a requisition to the president to call a special meeting of the board to consider these proposals. Sir, I do not want to weary the House with the recommendations that were made by the district board, but I am going to give you a few samples of the ultimate orders passed by the Government on the recommendations of the board. Sir, any Government would have had sufficient warning from the very proposals put forward by the district board that the members who passed those resolutions were not really actuated by proper motives but that, on the other hand, they were actuated by entirely selfish motives and that they marked out and pieced out circles for themselves so that they might get into the board very easily. For example, in the Nandalur circle is a village called Patur, the number of voters was 150 or so and that one village was proposed to be separated and joined to another circle, the circle of Rajampet, which has a much larger voting strength and population. Besides, that village alone is on the other side of the river, Cheyyar. Happily or unhappily, I do not know which, the Government have not given effect to that resolution. This is just cited to show that any Government on the slightest consideration of the proposals put forward would

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have at once come to the conclusion that they should not be taken at their face value and that they ought to be very carefully considered before they are given effect to. We are told, Sir, that the interference of the Local Self-Government Department is necessary in order to set right certain inequalities in the voting strength of the various circles that were formed by the previous Government, which, I may submit by the way, was the very same Government by the Justice Party. I think more than two years were spent for passing those orders. The Government took a lot of time to collect the statistics of population, voting strength and so on before they gave effect to the changes in the circles. The revenue firkas were kept intact for the formation of district board circles. The Minister may or may not agree with me, but I do maintain that it is always better that certain areas which were once marked out for certain definite purposes which have nothing to do with Local Self-Government or party politics should always be kept intact. In this connexion I shall quote a very important passage from the very able memorandum prepared by Mr. Boag, for the Delimitation Committee. Referring to the formation of constituencies for the Legislative Council, this is what he says:

'The size and population of revenue divisions vary very considerably and glaring inequalities will result. But if to correct inequalities an adjustment of boundaries is attempted, there will be no end to demands for such adjustment. It is true that by transferring taluks from one revenue division to another a greater measure of equality in population can be obtained. But any manipulation of boundaries in this manner lends itself to abuse by the party machine. In this connexion, it may be noted that there has been much criticism of the adjustment of boundaries for local board electorates. . . .' (Page 3 of the memorandum.)

I am going to show to the House that every sentence in this paragraph has been proved true in the case of Cuddapah. In answer to a question put by my hon. Friend, Mr. Nachiyappa Gounder, in connexion with the reshuffling of the electoral circles in the South Arcot District Board which had till then been formed on the basis of revenue firkas as such, this is what the Government said:

'(b) As the original division of electoral circles resulted in an unequal distribution of voters among the circles, the district board urged a re-division of the electoral circles and submitted proposals for the removal of the inequalities.'

Later on in answer to another clause of the same question, the Government have said:

'(g) Revenue firka as a basis of division into circles had to be given up, in order to avoid the defects mentioned in answer to clause (b) above.'

Sir, whatever opinion I may hold with regard to the undesirability of changing the revenue firka as a basis of division into circles for the purpose of elections to local boards, I shall for the moment accept the argument of the Hon. the Chief Minister that for the purpose of setting right inequalities of voting strength in the revenue firkas it is desirable that changes should be made. I shall take that argument itself and prove what scant justice has been done to that principle even. Sir, I do not want to weary the House with many details. But I only

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want to show how unjust and unfair this Government has been in the matter of the change of the circles in the Cuddapah district. There were two circles in the previous arrangement—Chitvel circle and Kodur circle. Each of them formed a separate firka. The voting strength of the Chitvel circle excluding the villages that are now removed is 2,714; the voting strength in the Kodur circle was 3,632. There are three villages, viz., Nagavaram, Obanapalle and Vellalavarikandrika which used to form part of the Chitvel circle and which had a voting strength of 610. Including these three villages the voting strength of Chitvel circle was 3,324. From this firka which had only 3,324 voters, as many as 610 voters are taken away to another circle, which already had more voters."

Diwan Bahadur M. GOPALASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" On a point of order, Mr. President, may I ask how all these details are relevant to the demand under discussion? "

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—" I do not think there is any irrelevancy in it, but it is for the hon. Member to judge whether the matter is of very urgent importance."

* Mr. K. KOTI REDDI:—" Sir, from this circle which already has a smaller number of voters an attempt is made to take away some voters and put them in in a circle which has already more than 3,600 voters. Where is the principle enunciated by the Chief Minister that firkas may be changed in order to set right inequalities in voting strength? "

Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI:—' Is that your firka? "

* Mr. K. KOTI REDDI:—" I represent the whole district, the whole Presidency, if not the whole world. I do not exist for myself alone, I exist for something more than that. (An hon. Member: A very good idea.) Sir, let us take the population. The population of the Chitvel circle is 20,066; including the three villages that are now removed the population is 25,354. But what is the population of the Kodur circle? Thirty-nine thousand seven hundred and twenty-five then and 45,013 now as against 20,066 of Chitvel circle newly formed. The revenue collected in the Kodur circle is more than that collected in the Chitvel circle. In these two circles one has more population and voting strength and pays more revenue than the other. Yet, Sir, an attempt is made here to remove some areas from the smaller firka—as many as three villages—and tag them on to the bigger circle. What
11-45 a.m. is the purpose? What is the principle underlying it? So far as we are aware, we think that this arrangement was made in favour of a man whom the Justice Party wanted to help; nothing else.

" When we come to the question of change of seats, the same old story: there were two seats reserved for women. The previous arrangement was one seat was given to Cuddapah and one seat to Rajampet.

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I do not know the reasons which actuated the Government to make this previous arrangement. It was probably thought that these two circles contained enlightened population and a large number of lady voters. That was the very reason which actuated the Hammond Committee to give a number of urban seats to ladies. A lady seat had been attached to Rajampet which had 3,800 voters; this seat is now taken away and given to the very same Chitvel which is now a very small circle, as already pointed out. This seat should naturally and fairly go to the circle where there are a large number of voters, where the population is great. There were no valid reasons for making these changes, except that of helping a partyman. I have given one instance; but probably one swallow does not make a summer it is said; I shall give one more instance. With regard to the Siddhout taluk, there were four firkas; these firkas were divided into two circles each circle containing unequal voting strength. Under the previous arrangement, the disparity between these two circles was 535; now the disparity is 1,247. That is the arrangement that has been approved by the Hon. Chief Minister, in order to set right inequalities in voting strength! Not only that; to the smaller of these circles, a Muhammadan seat is given; a Muhammadan seat was asked for this circle because it was said that it was an ancient seat of Muhammadan rulers. The seat should naturally go to a circle which has the largest Muhammadan population. If you take the Muhammadan population talukwar, the first taluk is Rayachoti and it has already one seat reserved for Muhammadans. Then Cuddapah must get one seat: it too has one seat. Then the third in population is Proddatur which has the population of 8,000; the population of Sidhout is only 5,000, and it has now been given one seat instead of Proddatur. In Proddatur taluk, there is not only a large Muhammadan population but it has a very large general population also, 107,000. Proddatur has to get five seats on the population basis according to the calculations I have made What is the test that the Government applied in this case? Neither population nor voting strength, which they claim to be their test. What is it then? It is self-preservation. I do not know how far the Government can justify the allocation of the women seats. One woman seat was removed from Cuddapah and given to Chinnamandam in Rayachoti taluk. The district board did not even pass a resolution favouring this arrangement. The very obliging Chief Minister took away the seat from Cuddapah and attached it to Chinnamandam. What was the reason, I do not know. I see that there is only one reason; judged from past results, Cuddapah was considered to be a safe seat for the Justice Party. Last time both the lady seat and the general seat were won by Justice Partymen. After the meeting of the district board and before the orders of the Government, the gentleman who was the member of the district board and who had a lot of influence in the circle was taken away by the hand of man. The Justice Party in the district thought they would lose these seats. Without any resolution of the district board to support him, the Hon. the Chief Minister had transferred the seat from

Cuddapah to Chinnamandam. If you take into account the voting strength, the latter place has considerably less than Cuddapah 2,237 as against 3,586."

Mr. V. P. Narayanan Nambiyar:—" On a point of order, Sir. May I know if there is any time-limit to speeches and if there is no time-limit, may I appeal to Mr. Koti Reddi through you to be brief and to give an opportunity to the rest of the world to speak?"

* The Hon. the President:—" Unfortunately for Mr. Narayanan Nambiyar, there is no time-limit. As regards the other point of order he raised, it depends upon Mr. Koti Reddi's ability to recognize that there are other Members who wish to partake in the debate."

* Mr. K. Koti Reddi:—" What is the standard on which one more seat has been given to Rayachoti? What is the justification of the Hon. the Chief Minister to make this change? On population basis, it is entitled to only seven seats and this is an extra seat. One more instance and I am done. In constituting Pulivendla circle, three circles have to be disturbed in order to favour a particular candidate. In reply to my hon. Friend, Mr. Ranganatha Mudaliyar, I may say that, except in one instance where the result was miscarried, all the rest of the arrangements that were made by the Hon. the Chief Minister in favour of his partymen has proved successful. That is the reason why these arrangements were made. You may infer whatever you like from these facts. I do not know if democracy means helping one's own partymen; if it is so, I do not know if it is worth having. Do parties exist to help the people or for self-preservation? Party Governments are formed for doing good to the country as a whole, to the people as a whole without distinction of caste, colour, creed or party. I do not know if this is communal justice for which the party is supposed to stand for. There are certain arrangements which are not intended to be changed from time to time according to the whims and fancies of the Hon. the Chief Ministers There must be some policy or principle behind these arrangements. There must be some standard, either of population or of voting strength, by which these arrangements can be tested. I do not know if the Hon. the Chief Minister will be in a position to justify all these changes. In making these arrangements he must bear in mind some general considerations, general policies. It is possible for a fertile brain in the Secretariat to devise some defence. Each time the question of change of circles is raised in the Council, some answer is given without looking into answers already given. With regard to a Muhammadan seat, a mysterious answer was given which I could not understand: I was doubtful as to what was exactly meant by the answer and even Mr. Russell to whom I referred, could not enlighten me. When the time comes I hope the Hon. the Chief Minister will be in a position to give us the wisdom of his policy.

" I want to speak about a number of other things; as other hon. Members are anxious to speak, I shall try to be brief. Whether it is the Justice Party, or the Nationalists' Party or the Congress Party,

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that rules for the time being there should be some arrangements of a quasi permanent nature which ought not to be changed for party reasons. It seems as if the Justice Party exists for the purpose of helping its own partymen regardless of public interest; it is intended to do justice to members of its own party and not to the public at large; it has been professing repeatedly that it has been doing justice to all communities. Is it national justice or territorial justice? It cannot be communal justice.

"Only one more point, Sir. I have to refer to it, though it is a little personal. The other day in connexion with an amendment moved by my hon. Friend, Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed, to the City Municipal Act with regard to changing the street names, I attacked the Ministry; instead of leaving this small matter to be decided by a large majority in the Corporation Council, the Local Government wanted that their approval should be taken to change the names of streets. From my experience of the Ministry, I said it was better to entrust this power to a decided majority of the Corporation Council than to the Ministry.

"My hon. Friend, the Chief Minister, said—I don't remember his exact words—that I was very much disappointed on account of the recent elections to the district board, and that I now found that the Local Self-Government Department did not suit my purpose. I do not know, Sir, what he meant by this; if he meant by that that I sought for myself or for my partymen the services of the Local Self-Government Department, in order to gain our own selfish ends, without any considerations of policy or public interest, I refute that statement. At the same time, I would like to remind him that I am telling the truth when I say that I have never been able to reconcile myself with the view that private or party interests should be in conflict with public interests. And if once I did not approach the late Raja of Panagal of blessed memory for throwing open the Presidentship of the District Board for election, I thought it was not my duty to do it. When this hon. Council passed a resolution for throwing open every district board presidentship for election, it was felt that Cuddapah district also would get that privilege. Though I was in the Opposition, and had a fair chance of becoming the President of the District Board, if it was thrown open for election."

12 noon.

Mr. V. P. Narayanan Nambiyar:—"Mr. President, Sir, is this autobiography relevant to the discussion?" (Laughter.)

* Mr. K. Koti Reddi:—"It would show how the Justice Party was regardless of public interest. The late Raja of Panagal went to the extent of saying that the Cuddapah district was backward and so it did not deserve this privilege of electing its president to the district board. I believe strongly even to-day, and it is my firm conviction that the hon. the Raja Sahib of Panagal did it because he felt that I who was in the Opposition, who was a non-Brahman for whose sake this Justice Party exists—(Laughter)—and which seems to exist in order to

see that the cursed Brahman does not get into these positions—was likely to get it, with the result that he nominated Rao Bahadur T. M. Narasimhacharlu, a Brahman, for that place as against throwing it open for election, lest I might get it, a non-Brahman in Opposition. Well, Sir, you may or may not believe me—but I never aspired for these places for my sake. If it is a question of right or privilege of the district, certainly I value it and fight for it. I feel strongly that the district has not been properly treated on account of my being in the Opposition for so many years, and has received all these pin-pricks from the Justice Party. Sir, if I seek any personal favour, let the Ministry say, 'Oh, you don't deserve it; because you don't belong to our party.' But if it is a question of the right of a district or a question of a privilege of the people, why should the district suffer for my sake, I ask? I do hope that the Ministry, whoever they be, whether now or in the future, would take these things into consideration and think that they exist not for their party alone but for the country and for the people, and whatever they do, let them do it fairly and equitably so that they may feel with me that man exists not for bread alone but for something else."

* Sriman M. G. PATNAIK Mahasayo:—" Mr. President, we have had the long story of my hon. Friend, Mr. Koti Reddi, but I could not understand what his real complaint was. The main point was that certain circles were altered, and although he did not say whether the recommendation of the district board was accepted, I gather from his speech that the Board's recommendation was accepted. He began the story by saying that what the Hon. Minister did in accordance with the recommendation of the district board was not wrong, but ended by saying that by implication, the statement of the Hon. Minister was not wrong. I cannot understand why he should make so much fuss about these alterations of circles. He does not even say that if these circles had not been so altered, his party or group would have secured a larger number of seats. If he had stated that at least, I could understand him; or if he had stated that the Congress party gained a little less and the Justice party gained a majority on account of the alteration of these circles, then also I could understand it. (Interruption from hon. Members on the Opposition.) My friends on this side do not want to listen to the other aspect of the question, because probably they are perfectly satisfied with what Mr. Koti Reddi has stated. I do not of course say that my friend Mr. Koti Reddi said anything untrue, but he said things which are very much exaggerated and which verge on untruth."

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—" Sir, can one hon. Member charge another hon. Member with saying an untruth in this House?"

* Sriman M. G. PATNAIK Mahasayo:—" I did not say that; I simply said that what he said was not the truth. I do not however wish to pursue further the remarks that fell from my hon. Friend, Mr. Koti Reddi, because as I said, the members of the Opposition seem to be perfectly satisfied with them.

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"I do not wish to attack the hon. the Lady Member, because she has simply been true to the instructions given to her and has repeated parrot-like what had been stated previously. Only one instance was given, that Mrs. Balasubrahmanyam was defeated in Ranipet, and therefore she has attacked the Ministry. I cannot understand this sort of argument. If only Congressmen are true, they ought to follow the advice of the President of the Congress who said: 'Well, elect the best man; do not care to which party he belongs or to which creed he belongs.' Instead of that, these people are making a show that the Congress is powerful; they are putting up all sorts of men who have no faith in the Congress at all, who in order to avoid being troubled by Congressmen who go to them in large numbers, sign the creed but go back on it the next moment. (Laughter.) The whole thing is artificial. What has got to be done in the district is some domestic good to the people. If that is so, why bring in all these party distinctions? The whole idea seems to be to show that the Justice party has not a big hold on the people. But does it mean that? After all, what is the strength of the Congress in this province? It is very small in spite of the fact that some subscribe to the four-anna creed or franchise.

"Reference was made, Sir, to the Assembly elections. People thought the Congress candidates in the Assembly could do more, because it is an all-India question, and such people, holding all-India views, have been, rightly I think, returned. After all, Sir, the Justice party is not an all-India party, and they never objected to the Congress people being returned. And yet we see what their performances are; they made high promises, but practically none of those promises has been fulfilled."

Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt:—"What about the Council elections?"

* Sriman M. G. Patnaik Mahasayo:—"As regards Council elections, I know that the Congress has succeeded; I do admit it; but naturally, people who left this off for such a long time must be permitted to go into the Council. What is the peculiarity there, I cannot see. When there are a good number of Justicites in the Council, people may think that a few Congressmen who go and beg of them for votes may go into the Council. That does not however mean that the people are always with the Congress altogether.

"Coming to local board elections, I know perfectly well what happened in West Godavari. There the fight was between two persons—I do not want to name them. One made use of the Justice party and the other made use of the Congress party. Certain people bore a private grudge against the leader of the Justice party there, and so they joined the Congress party with a view to wreak vengeance on that particular man. That is how there was a large number of so-called Congress successes there. You find in the case of the President's election, the difference in votes was after all two; the Congress party man was supported by 22 votes, as against 20. (An hon. Member: 'But it was still a majority.') Yes, very great majority! Simply because some

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people sign the creed, the Congress party begins to think that it is much better than the Justice party; similarly the Justice party also begins to think that it is much better than the Congress party. All stand on the same footing, they come from the same place, race and communities. Why make any distinction? All these people sign these creeds in order for the time being to gain their own selfish ends. (Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt: 'Selfish ends.') One hon. Member says 'Selfish ends'; but all know the part played by him in connexion with the Maths Bill. He has now joined one party and holds on in order to gain success at the next elections and in the hope that the Congress party will be powerful then.

"Sir, a remark was also made that Hon. the Chief Minister has interferred unnecessarily with certain elections. I do not know the merits of the cases, and so I do not want to say anything with regard to that. But this much I will say: that if he has got power to do so, if an urgent case is made out and if thereby he can avoid the people going to civil courts and taking a long time over it, why not he interfere? He is perfectly justified in doing so. The only question to be considered is whether the Local Government have got the power under the statute. If you can prove that the Local Government have not got the power, it is your duty to say so and to challenge the exercise of such powers in a civil court. Unless you do it, it is idle to make this attack on the exercise of such power by the Ministry.

"Then, it was said that this Council does not represent the people. That has been already replied to. There is the constitution which says that this Council can be dissolved earlier than three years, or its life may be prolonged after that period by His Excellency the Governor. That means that every voter, when he sent a man to the Council, sent him only subject to the exercise of such discretion by His Excellency. Therefore, one cannot say that these people do not represent the constituencies which returned them.

12-15 p.m. "Now, what we find is, people want to kick the ladder by which they have risen. That is the attitude of the Congress people. They have made use of the very constitution, they have got into the Councils and they are exercising all the privileges of the constitution and at the same time they try to kick the ladder. Their position would have been quite consistent if they had not entered the Councils. But now they want to enter the Councils, they want to work the constitution as other people want to, but still they say we are the people who have gone to jail and therefore are superior beings.

"I would just like to say this. No doubt there has been a good deal of factious fight in the districts over these local boards and I consider that most unfortunate. I do not like that politics should enter into the elections of district or local boards. That is my personal view (Hear, hear). I am very glad to see that the President of the Congress also has said so. Though I believe he was taken round to the district in view of the district board elections, he denies that he had anything to do with district board elections and so does not want to be entrapped

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by the people of this Presidency who attach so much importance to the district board elections. That would have been all right, but what is it that is going on now. In all districts, there is a lot of faction and all sorts of things are being done; in some places Congress men are returned and in some others Justice party candidates are returned. That is most unfortunate.

"Reference was also made to the fact that some Commissioners and panchayat officers were appointed from persons belonging to the Justice party. I do not understand why the Congress is trying to get into power. I think they also want to exercise their patronage and they want to provide employment for many of their unemployed men; and the money that had been collected previously in order to carry on Congress propaganda has been exhausted; and how are they to maintain this unemployed army of Congressmen? That can only be done by capturing the district boards and giving them some employment so that they may be ready at any time to help the Congress in its propaganda or in elections. That is really the object of these people. When such is the case, why should the hon. the Lady Member object to the Minister appointing some persons who do not belong to the Congress as commissioners . . ."

Mrs. A. Rukmani Lakshmipathi:—"As a matter of personal explanation, Mr. President, what I said was that the appointment of commissioners and panchayat officers has been done with the deliberate intention of taking over men sitting on the Opposition benches to their own party."

* Sriman M. G. Patnaik Mahasayo:—"But the lady Member forgets that commissioners cannot be appointed except from persons in Government or local board service. Therefore, no Congressmen can come in because *ex hypothesi* they are not in the service of Government, local board or municipality. So, we can have only people who do not belong to the Congress. If in future these people get into service and then if the Government do not give them these appointments, there will be ground for complaint, but now there is no ground for any complaint at all.

"Sir, I do not want to go into all these things. The same thing may be said with regard to co-operative credit societies. I find that in several districts the Congress people have captured co-operative societies and there also they want to provide appointment for the army of unemployed Congressmen."

* Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt:—"Mr. President, if I rise to support this motion which has been so ably moved by my hon. Friend, Mrs. Lakshmipathi, I do so at the dictates of a very deep sense of duty. The chapter of the history of this Presidency relating to this Ministry is a very gloomy one. First of all, this Ministry came in at a time when the noblest sons of this Presidency were being jailed and ill-treated, were being beaten and were being subjected to all sorts of penalties imposed by the lawless ordinances which were promulgated.

(Mr. C. Basu Dev: 'Where were you then?') I was of course here doing my duty. *But the quesion that I would ask of this Ministry* is, where were they? That is the question that was asked of Judas Iscariat when Jesus was crucified. 'Were you there when they crucified our Lord?' The same quesion I would ask of the Ministry, namely, where were they when the noblest sons of this Presidency were crucified in the cross when the soul of India as it were was crucified. I daresay the proceedings of this Council will show that their place was not with their countrymen, but they took a comfortable place with the Government who promulgated those lawless ordinances and worked them in a most lawless and an inhumanly manner. That is the first charge that I would lay at the doors of this Ministry.

"*Secondly, Sir, at a time when the country was passing through* a period of untold misery on account of the economic depression, and the executive Government was trying to impose fresh taxation, or increase taxation by a mere executive fiat, when Opposition members in this Council have been from the very beginning asking for putting the land revenue policy of the Government on a satisfactory statutory basis, what did the Ministry do? The Ministry, with the majority behind their back in this Council, selfishly used that majority for an alliance with the executive and for keeping them in office, they supported them as against the people who were taxed further and further, so much so they have been completely impoverished and the richer classes have become poor and the middle classes are nowhere in this Province. I think that this state of affairs has also been brought about by the active and passive co-operation of the Ministry with the executive."

"Then again, Sir, whenever any question of national importance came up before this Council, both the Ministry and the Justice party were not in favour of the popular demands and popular ambitions, but they were on the side of the retrogade Government which is trying to stop the wheel of progress in this Presidency. That was the case in the case of their vote on the white paper, on remissions, on the varions legislations undertaken, etc. The latest instance of that was the voting on the question of single versus plural-member constituencies. I am sorry I had not the opportunity to speak on that. The very idea of a single-member constituency is the most retrograde idea. Single-member constituencies are naturally bound to be smaller . . ."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Order, order, if the hon. Member had no opportunity to speak on that, I am sorry that I could not give him an opportunity on that day, but I think it is not quite relevant now that he should go on discussing about the question of single-member constituencies, which had been voted upon by this House very recently."

* Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—"Sir, I was only going to say that the Ministry cast its vote for the retrograde single-member constituency, because single-member constituencies are not democratic but they will help the zamindars to get in very easily as against the commonality of the community and thus create pocket boroughs for them. But I do not want to go into the merits of the question now.

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"Coming to the question of the Educational policy of this Ministry, that is also very retrograde and unnational. We have recently seen that the Coimbatore municipality was surcharged for granting a holiday to the schools when Mahatma Gandhi visited those schools. Sir, Mahatma Gandhi is recognized as the greatest figure in India and in the whole world. What is wrong, Sir, with the Council or the Chairman in having given a holiday? In any self-governing country, people with any self-respect would have been very glad over that, but what was the part played by the Ministry? Instead of honouring such men, they want to vie with each other in dishonouring the noblest son of the country of whom every Indian should feel pround.

"Again, Sir, the Ministry has banned the Education Week, which was being held all these years. I do not know what their idea was in doing so; perhaps they thought that the Congressmen might take part in the Education Week and perhaps they wanted to prevent the Congressmen from taking part in the celebrations. Anyhow, what was the justification for banning this Education Week?

"In the field of Local Self-Government also, they have been equally retrograde and this was dealt with very elaborately by my hon. Friend, Mr. Koti Reddi. The policy of the Ministry has been to put the use of their power for their own party ends. In my own district, I had recently a bitter experience of the way in which the party in power used their power in their own interest in connexion with district board where elections had taken place, except in one firka. A genleman belonging to the Justice party was defeated and he wanted to stand again for that place and get himself elected and then contest the presidentship. For that purpose, they put off the election of the president itself for the whole district board till the election in that particular firka was conducted; naturally as they expected that gentleman got elected for that one seat; and by a series of corrupt practices, by offering the vice-presidentship to one gentleman, something else to another and so on it was possible for them to get him elected as president of the district board. My submission, Sir, is this, that this Ministry has given room to these corrupt practices and put to use its power by putting off the president's election unjustly for a considerable time in order to aid a particular candidate of its own party.

"So far as this Council is concerned, Sir, I have also given notice of a cut motion and that is this. The Hon. Ministers have not been answering questions satisfactorily and courteously so far as members on this side are concerned. I have myself had occasion to put two very important questions relating to the administration of Local Self-Government in my district. The one question I asked was, how many servants of the district board were suspended or dismissed from service or otherwise punished after the ex-officio president took charge. Quite recently I put another question as to whether the ex-officio president had passed an order saying that he would summarily dismiss any servant of the district board who was found to be talking about the judgment passed by the sub-court against him in his personal capacity. The answer

to these questions was that Government had no information. And when I asked him as to whether the Government would call for the information, the Hon. the Chief Minister said "No.' The further answer was, if there was any complaint to be made by any servant of the district board, it was open to him to do so.

30 " Then I ask what is our duty? Are we not here to voice the
a. public feeling and bring to the notice of the Government serious irregularities that are happening in our district. I may say that so far as the first question was concerned a number of servants of the district board were dismissed in a very whimsical manner by the ex-officio president which it was the urgent duty of Government to stop. I also understand that about 70 or 80 schoolmasterships were abolished by the ex-officio president. What a large amount of unhappiness and misery must have been caused to a number of families, who were depending upon the district boards, have been thrown out of employment and are practically facing starvation? So far as the other question is concerned some judgment has been passed against the ex-officio president. What harm is there if a district board servant was talking of it and why should he be dismissed for it? Can any person be dismissed for talking about it? If this mad order had been acted upon, what amount of misery and injustice would have been caused? When such a threat is held out and when I bring it to the notice of the Government, is this the way of answering the question, by a responsible member of Government, of an elected member? Is this the courtesy shown to a Member of this Council? For all these reasons I feel it my bounden duty to support this motion. Then so far as the educational matters are concerned it was only recently that the Educational Minister has banned all protraits of the patriots of this country from being hung in any of the schools under the district boards or municipalities. My submission is if we are not to honour people who deserve the honour, and if we in our own country are not to honour our own greatmen and patriots by hanging their portraits in our schools to inculcate their principles in the minds of our children, and to hold them up as examples to our children, I do not know where we are going under the guidance of this Minister."

* Rao Sahib N. SIVA RAJ :—" Mr. President, Sir, the halting manner in which the lady member moved this motion and the energy and enthusiasm with which my friend Mr. Koti Reddi supported that motion reminds me of an incident in a South Indian temple of which curiously enough I was an eyewitness. (A voice: How can you enter the temple?) I was there and saw a man who performs the religious ceremonies in an artificial manner keeping his eye on the main chance. Among the worshippers there was a person who had taken a vow and who while the puja was going on suddenly got into a needless enthusiasm and fit so as to constitute himself a menace to the neighbouring devotees. (Laughter.) I am really quoting this incident to show how in a harmless matter like the one brought forward by my lady friend, who thought it was a mere duty cast upon her either in accordance with the election pledges or on account of the precedents set for her,

it was taken up so seriously and enthusiastically by others who had their local grievances. It was an old devotee in the temple also who grew enthusiastic over the puja. I am merely drawing your attention and the attention of this House to this question for the reason that I have been finding in this Council particularly that no-confidence motions have been resorted to, not because the public have lost confidence in the Minister but because it served as a medium of advertisement for some aspiring individuals who wanted to get power or because it served as an election cry for them particularly on the eve of an election. That has been my experience so far as this Council is concerned and on no occasion has this motion been so artificial as it has been to-day. (Interruption.) In reality all the charges that were brought against the Ministers have been based on questions such as the district board elections and district board servants. The answer has been given which ought to satisfy every hon. Member of the House that those changes were made because of the necessities of the case and in accordance with the local needs of the district. Then, Sir, what I want to urge upon your attention and the attention of this House is the fallacy of the argument that is constantly put forward and which has also been put forward to-day in respect of this motion that this Council is unrepresentative and the Justice party does not represent the country any more. They deduce the conclusion, Sir, from the fact that in a couple of by-elections Congressmen have been able to come out successful. (Voice: All the Congressmen). All right, have it 'double of a couple.' (Laughter.) Sir, in the by-elections they have come out successful. According to me and many who have been studying the nature of by-elections not only in our country but in other countries by-elections are no criterion whatever of the success or failure of any political party. There are many factors which enter into the consideration at the time of the general elections which are lacking at the time of the by-election and it makes all the difference. In the first place there is the strength of the candidates and the status of the candidates themselves. For instance, all the best men that the Justice party can get are already in the Council. The few available are not quite so good. Even if good they do not want to take the risk of a by-election for a short period as people have to lose a lot on account of election. It is not so in the other case; they have nothing to lose and have got everything to gain. There are people who stood in the name of Congress and who made private money for their own benefit. That is why in the by-elections we find that persons with a stake in the country do not care to stand and that is one of the reasons why people have returned Congressmen in most of these places. Secondly there is the argument that because the by-election is against the Justice party, the Justice party in the Council should resign and ought not to remain in the Council. So and so has been defeated and therefore the Ministry ought to resign. There have been instances where Congress people have been defeated. There is the case of Professor Ranga who was defeated in an ordinary local district board election. If the right to represent a small constituency had gone against him, has he got the courage and

the audacity to represent two districts together and if my friends agre(he ought to immediately resign his seat in the Legislative Assembly because he was not successful in the district board election. There i another instance of my good friend Mr. Ahmed Meeran in the distric board election. It will be very unkind of me to ask him to resign hi membership of the Legislative Council. (Laughter.) I certainly d not give that advice. He is perfectly right in sticking to his seat here (Laughter.) Then take the case of the two district boards one in Soutl Kanara and the other at Chittoor. It was but an accident that brough my friend Mr. C. R. Reddi to the Presidentship of the district board (Laughter.) In the case of South Kanara Mr. Shetty must resign hi seat here because he was defeated in South Kanara District Board Does it mean that he does not represent South Kanara in this Council All these questions are difficult to understand. While I am yet o this question of by-election, so far as most of the successes of th candidates are concerned and most of the successes of the Congress ar concerned I ought to say as my feeling in the matter that the weak-knee(among the Justice party, the chicken-hearted amongst them constitut the strongest amongst the Congress party. These by-elections if at al they are indications of anything they are indications only to such weak kneed people as those who have already become Congressmen or who ar about to become Congressmen or are still on the fence to see which sid is strong and not to the strong and sturdy amongst the members of th Justice party. I will only tell those people who talk about the Justic party and its future, of the Congress and its glorious success, my onl answer is ' wait and see ' as it was said on a famous occasion elsewher and we are perfectly certain that in the regular and organized gener(election the real men standing for the Justice party will come out i larger and greater numbers than they ever did before—does not matt(the propaganda by the Congressmen, malicious and false, does not matt(the advertisement they get from elsewhere, does not matter the help the get even from the Madras Mail. With regard to one or two things th(the Justice party has done I do not want to say to the Council what tl Justice party has done. We have been to-day helping the tenants this Province. We know how that legislation was torpedoed wheth by a subterfuge or otherwise and on such an important question landlord and tenant my lady friend and the institution which she, la(friend, represents are silent. I am glad the Justice party has to i credit this record of work led as it was by one of the noblest of t ancient aristocrats of the country. Sir, with regard to the question offices being given to the members of the Justice party I suppose would be termed what is called nepotism. I think people particular those who have visited foreign countries are familiar with this wo nepotism.

12-45 p.m. " Sir, even in a country like England where it is admitted on a hands that democratic institutions have been worked very successful and worked for a very long time and where I believe democrat instincts form part of a man's daily life, even there it is not possib

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for any ministry, however well it may be constituted, to escape nepotism of some kind or other. We have all heard of Lord Halsbury who was Lord Chancellor for a certain time. Most of the appointments made for the King's Bench and other judicial offices were given either to his favourites or to men of his own party, and there have been instances of juniors particularly being favoured. We have also heard that recently in America it has almost become a feature of their constitution. But I do not justify it only on that ground. Probably it is human nature to help one's own party, and I can perfectly well understand the party in power or the Ministry in power trying to help their own party men. Do you mean to say that a man who belongs to the opposite side should be favoured and then get in return only disloyalty and probably defeat? Nobody expects that a man in power will help a man belonging to the opposite party. If I were a Minister, I would straightaway admit that I am prepared to help my own party-men and that I will continue to do that. With regard to this matter of nepotism, I would say this. Recently, we have been seeing some controversy in the papers as regards local board contracts, particularly in places where Congressmen have been in power. With reference to this question, it has been declared as the dictum and the principle of action for Congress presidents that Congressmen alone must be given all contracts in preference to others. It does not matter what the nature of the tender is. In this matter, I must however congratulate Mr. Thevar who, I was told, refused to sit in judgment over certain tenders because he would necessarily be obliged to help certain friends of his, and so he delegated the authority to the vice-president. (Laughter.) Knowing as I do my friend, Mr. Thevar, I knew he would not do any other thing.

" I do not think I have either the time or the mind to refer to other matters, particularly to district boards and so on. I know the Ministers have got to reply to the various charges. I shall therefore end by saying that this no-confidence motion has become such a cheap and routine affair that it has lost all value. I think the Lady Member was ill-advised in having given notice of this cut motion, especially as she knows perfectly well that there is not the slightest chance of carrying it in this House and even if it was possible, on her admission, what is the use of carrying a motion of this kind in an unrepresentative House like this? " (Laughter.)

* Dr. P. Subbarayan :—" Mr. President, I want to elicit some information from my Hon. Friend, the Chief Minister. It has been rumoured for a long time that my Hon. Friend is going on leave, and I believe this rumour has certain basis attached to it. I should like to know from him—because I think it is right that the public ought to know in time—what arrangements are going to be made when my Hon. Friend leaves this Presidency. I do not grudge his leave because I feel that Members of Government who have worked hard for many years do deserve some holiday. In the case of my Hon. Friend, I am sure he deserves a holiday better than most men. But at the same

time, in the interests of the public, I think it is but right that we, Members of this Council, and, through this Council, the public, ought to know the arrangements that are going to be made when my Hon. Friend leaves the shores of this country. I do not want to enter into any party matters or party arrangements that might be made. I hope the Hon. Gentleman will be able to give this House some information on the point and through this House enlighten the public as to the procedure that is going to be adopted in this particular instance.

"Mr. President, talking of general matters, I do not think that even the party led by the Hon. Gentleman is satisfied with the Constitution that has become law to-day, because I think the freedom that we have been looking for has not been achieved by the Constitution that has been passed. I would like to appeal to all Members without distinction of party that, however much we may be satisfied or dissatisfied with the Constitution, it must be the determined effort of every hon. Gentleman in this House to try and work for the absolute freedom which this country deserves. In this connexion, I am reminded of a few lines from William Cowper, the famous English poet:

'’Tis Liberty alone that gives the flower
Of fleeting life its lustre and perfume;
And we are weeds without it. All constraint,
Except what wisdom lays on evil men,
Is evil; hurts the faculties, impedes
Their progress in the roads of science; blinds
The eyesight of Discovery, and begets,
In those that suffer it, a sordid mind,
Bestial, a meagre intellect, unfit
To be the tenant of man's noble form.'

Will I be wrong, Mr. President, if I say that we are in that situation in this country to-day? I think every line that I have quoted can be applied to conditions in this country to-day, because except for a few scientists we have contributed nothing in the way of invention to this world. That is due to the fact that we lack freedom, as Cowper well pointed out long ago. Can it be denied that there are sordid men in this country, who talking of liberty, are prepared to sell their country for a mess of pottage? That is well proved by the quotation I have made. I hope the Hon. Gentleman, the Chief Minister, when he goes to England and sees persons in authority who are concerned with the making of our future constitution, will bring home to the authorities at home the feeling that prevails in this country over this question of what we need in the future in order to make our country the home of freedom, and through our freedom the whole peace problem of the world will be solved. If a big country like India is contented, I am sure she can contribute to the problem of world peace better than it has been possible in the past, because patriots in this country are great believers in the doctrine of non-violence, and that I believe is the real basis of peace. I am sure we shall make our contribution to the peace problem if only our freedom is granted and granted without travail or pain."

* The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"With your permission, Sir, I have just a word to mention in regard to the

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remarks of the hon. lady who started the discussion on this motion and who has charged me with indifference in the matter of elementary education. She complained that I have not kept my promise to amend the Elementary Education Act. Apparently, Sir, the hon. Lady is not aware of what took place in this Council before she entered it. It is just a few months since she came in here, and before she came I introduced in this Council two important Bills which amended the Elementary Education Act, and when the Hon. the Chief Minister introduced his Bill amending the Local Boards Act clauses were included in that Bill which amended some sections of the Elementary Education Act. I may also say for the information of the hon. Lady that the two Bills which I introduced in this Council and which the Council passed into law related to several important matters connected with elementary education, such as the enforcement of compulsion, the method of compulsion and other matters of similar importance. It is indeed very gratifying to me to see that other provincial Governments are copying the good example that we have set. ('Hear, hear.') In the statement that was issued by the Bengal Government some time ago, about their educational policy they have accepted the soundness of the provisions which we have introduced in the second amending Bill, and they are going to introduce the same measure in their own province. And the United Provinces Government are in correspondence with us, and have called for information with regard to our amending Bill, and they are also intending to introduce a similar measure in their own province. Under these circumstances, I should mention to my hon. Friend, Mrs. Lakshmipathi, that her charge is not only unkind but unfounded also. I must acknowledge with gratitude the great help that I have received from the hon. Members of the Opposition in all my endeavours towards improving the state of elementary education not only by fresh legislation but in other methods also. But I regret to have to say that it is only after the Congress Members entered this House that this co-operation has been denied to me. The Government have set up a sub-committee to consider some outstanding problems connected with elementary education, such as, the spread of literacy in the larger villages of the province and matters like that, and I invited the Leader of the Congress Party to serve on that committee, because I was sure he, by his experience in educational matters, was in a position to make a valuable contribution towards the deliberations of this committee. Well, I do not know whether personally he thought my invitation was right or wrong, but I understood that his party's programme and principle were against rendering any help towards progress in such a thing as this undertaken by the Government. Well, if the policy of the Congress is still not to help but only to obstruct progress, may I with all modesty say . . ."

Mr. C. Ramalinga Reddi:—"On a point of personal explanation, may I say that it is not part of the policy of the Congress to obstruct the spread of education? But the question whether we should co-operate with Government, itself, is still under consideration." (Laughter.)

* The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar:—" I am thankful to the Hon. Member for the interruption because it has only confirmed what I have been saying that they are still pursuing their methods of non-co-operation, and however good a thing undertaken by the Government might be, they are not prepared to co-operate. So, I said that this policy of non-co-operation has been introduced only after these half a dozen Members representing the Congress came in here. Before that I had the utmost co-operation from the hon. Members of the Opposition. Well, this is all that I feel called upon to say in reply to the hon. Lady who said that I have been indifferent towards matters concerning elementary education and charged me with not having attempted the amendment of the Elementary Education Act as I had promised to do."

* The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—" Sir, with reference to the remarks of the hon. the Lady Member who moved the token cut to show that this House has no confidence in the present Ministry, I shall first of all answer the main question she has raised that this House is unrepresentative and that the Ministers should not continue in office. All hon. Members are aware that this House is constituted and that we are functioning under the Government of India Act, and similarly, if its normal term has been extended, it has been done under the powers given to His Excellency the Governor by the Government
.m. of India Act. And I do not see how an extended Council becomes either unrepresentative or an illegal body. Motions of this kind have really an atmosphere of unreality about them for two reasons, firstly, that even the mover of the motion does not expect it to be carried and does not wish to respect and be guided by the vote of the House. I do not see what useful purpose will be served by discussions of this kind when the verdict of the House is not to be accepted. Sir, in countries where responsible governments prevail, the Opposition have to be restrained and have their own limitations in attacking the Treasury Benches and in making promises to the electorate. But in the present case, the spokesmen representing the Congress Party have no such restrictions placed on their speeches. They have been, in season and out of season, demanding the resignation of the Ministry when a certain by-election or district board election is lost. But they have never followed that advice themselves when similar situations arose. In a sense I venture to think that the representatives of the Congress are not really responsible to the electorate for the simple reason that they are guided after the election not by the wishes of the electorate but by a caucus or an outside body known as the All-India Congress Committee. I should therefore say that if they come here and give advice to us, it cannot be deemed to have been really speaking on behalf of the electorate, and if they really mean serious business, they must be prepared to take the responsibility and be in a position to implement their election pledges. Sir, so far, whatever success has come to the Congress has been entirely due to a policy of negation which they have been following and we have seen that whenever a test came they have

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failed to implement their pledges. Of course, we, representing the Justice party, always believe in the following constitutional methods, and I have said more than once that the Congress has again come back to the path of constitutionalism.

" As regards the various points mentioned here, the hon. the Lady Member has stated that there is a further ground why the Ministry should resign, i.e., the Chief Minister has acknowledged that there is a difference of opinion between him and the Reserved Half. Apparently she refers to the statement issued by me with reference to the ministerial policy and the extensions of this Council, wherein I have stated that the ministry has not been consulted in the matter of extensions of this Council. From that she infers that there has not been complete confidence between the Reserved and the Transferred Halves. My hon. Friend appears to be totally ignorant of the constitutional position. Extensions to the Legislative Council are made neither by the Local Government nor by the Governor-in-Council, but by His Excellency the Governor in his individual discretion as a representative of the Crown. It is therefore a well known fact that in such cases there is no question of consultation with the Members of the Government whether in the Reserved or Transferred Half. The hon. Lady Member has also mentioned that because in a particular firka in the Vellore District Board a Justice candidate has been defeated, the Ministry should resign. She has been neither charitable nor generous enough to mention cases where Congressmen have been defeated on the same day and she does not suggest what remedy should be applied in that case."

Mr. C. Ramalinga Reddi :—" Totals balance."

* The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili :—" As regards local boards, no doubt, the Congressmen have come into the field with the ostensible object of purifying local board administration. Although I am one who always believes that party politics should not be imported into local boards, yet I am not sorry that the Congress has decided to enter this field, and it remains to be seen, now that they are in charge of at least some of the district boards, how far they will be able to carry out their promises and how far they are going to purify public life; and I am sure they are already realizing that their acceptance of these positions of responsibility and power is not an unmixed blessing.

" As regards the Religious Endowments Board, a remark was made that Government are interfering with the appointment of trustees. I may say that it is a matter in which Government never interfere; it is a matter within the jurisdiction of the Board and the committees.

" As regards the bifurcation of district boards, I may state that it is a policy which has been approved by this House and which is being followed in pursuance of a statute passed by this Hon. House by a large majority, and we believe that this policy has the general support of public opinion outside. Of course, it is easy to make all

kinds of assertions, but the real test will no doubt come in the ensuing elections. Mention has been made that in connexion with the Chingleput District Board, Government have forced the district board president to resign and placed the administration of the board in charge of the Collector. I may state that it is not a fact. The Collector has taken charge after the normal term of office of the board expired. Mr. Koti Reddi has made reference to the re-formation of the Cuddapah District Board circles. This matter has already come up before this House in the form of questions more than once; and I may state that I never denied the fact that petitions were submitted to Government and Government declined to interfere since they had no time to go into these matters; and when further petitions were received, they were sent up to the district board for their opinion; only after the district board have sent up proposals have they been considered. My friend, Mr. Koti Reddi, has himself admitted that Government have rejected some of the proposals of the district board, and I may state that only such of the proposals of the board as have been found reasonable have been approved. My hon. Friend wanted to know what I really referred to when I said the other day that the administration of the Ministry in the department of Local Self-Government no longer suited him or words to that effect. I did not mean anything more than what the words mean, and there is no insinuation at all. All I said was that he was not in agreement with the present policy carried out by the Ministry and it did not serve his purpose. Apart from that I meant no insinuation.

" There are several other points raised by my friends, but I doubt whether within the time allotted to me it will be possible for me to do justice to them. My hon. Friend, Mr. Bhatt, has stated that the Minister has unduly interfered with the election of the president of the South Kanara District Board. I may state that the result of the election has amply justified interference on the part of the Government. Of course, my Congress friends in the district have employed every method available to their hands, whether legal or illegal, (Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt: 'Question.') to see that the voting for the election of Mr. Mahabala Hegde in a particular circle did not proceed smoothly, because they knew that if he was elected to the board, he would be a strong candidate against them for the presidentship. A few people in the district have put in a petition to the subcourt on the ground that their names should be included in the electoral rolls. A definite procedure is laid down in this case, and
5 without availing themselves of the opportunities given at the various stages of preparation of the electoral roll, they have rushed to the court and tried to prevent the voters in that area from exercising their votes. This is a practice which the Government consider should not be encouraged, as it will mean that elections to a good many circles can be held up and the whole administration brought to a standstill. I feel that the Government interference has been amply justified in this case.

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" Mr. Bhatt has also mentioned the case of some 70 or 80 school-masters being dismissed in the South Kanara district by the ex-officio president. Representations have been made to me in this connexion that there were a number of bogus schools which were being run during the last few years and the teachers thereof were being paid. Of course without definite materials I am not in a position to come to any conclusion. I will assure my hon. Friend that the matter will be looked into and point out to him that under the rules all employees of local boards have right of appeal to Government.

" My hon. Friend, Dr. Subbarayan, requested me to give him necessary information with reference to my leave arrangements. It is true that I have applied to His Excellency, on medical grounds, for permission to leave this province for a short period and, so far, I have not received any orders from His Excellency on this subject. I am not therefore in a position to enlighten the House on this point (loud laughter) however much I try to do so. However, I may state that it is true that I have an intention of going, but the matter has not reached the final stage.

" My hon. Friend, the Leader of the Opposition, has made some remarks about the unsatisfactory nature of the new Constitution. It is true that the Constitution has not been entirely satisfactory to any political party in the country; and I may state that we do not lack in patriotism in wishing that our country should reach the cherished goal as early as possible. And, in our own way we are working to the best of our ability in that direction. As regards the unsatisfactory condition of the Constitution, I have heard both in this House and on the public platforms statements that this Constitution is more retrograde than the present. From what little I know from my experience of the administration of the Transferred departments placed in my charge, I may state, without fear of contradiction, that the new Constitution, however defective and unsatisfactory it may be, is certainly a great advance on the present and that the success of the Constitution really depends upon the spirit in which it is worked.

" My hon. Friend, Dr. Subbarayan, also mentioned that we must attain full freedom which we now lack. Of course I am never labouring under any delusion as regards that. I do not believe that the coming Constitution will give us full dominion status. That is far from it, and I do not want to deceive anybody in that respect. But I do feel that it is a stepping stone to dominion status. As regards freedom, or full freedom, or ability to exercise our rights, it all depends on how we in the future work the new Constitution. I believe full freedom is a thing which cannot be given by someone from outside. It depends on ourselves how we act together in the national interests and attain our cherished goal within the British Empire." (Loud applause.)

The cut motion was put and declared lost.

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Mrs. A. Rukmani Lakshmipathi demanded a poll and the House divided thus:—

Ayes.

1 Dr. P. Subbarayan.
2 Diwan Bahadur T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar.
3 Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed.
4 ,, T. S. Ramaswami Ayyar.
5 ,, V. T. Arasu.
6 Khan Bahadur Khalif-ul-lah Sahib Bahadur.
7 Mr. M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar.
8 ,, A. M. Ahmed Meeran.
9 ,, A. Pl. N. V. Nadimuthu Pillai.
10 ,, P. Peddiraju.
11 ,, K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder.
12 ,, K. S. Sivasubrahmanya Ayyar.
13 Mr. K. P. Raman Menon.
14 Diwan Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar.
15 Mr. K. Koti Reddi.
16 ,, P. M. Thangal.
17 ,, V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar.
18 ,, N. Halasyam Ayyar.
19 Rao Bahadur R. K. Venugopal Nayudu.
20 Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt.
21 ,, C. Ramalinga Reddi.
22 Mrs. A. Rukmani Lakshmipathi.
23 Mr. P. Ratnavelu Tevar.

Noes.

1 The Hon. Rai Bahadur Sir K. Venkata Reddi Nayudu.
2 ,, Rao Bahadur A. T. Pannirselvam.
3 ,, Sir Charles Souter.
4 ,, Mr. G. T. H. Bracken.
5 ,, Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar.
6 ,, Mr. P. T. Rajan.
7 ,, the Raja of Bobbili.
8 Diwan Bahadur C. Natesa Mudaliyar.
9 Mrs. K. Alamelumangathayaramma.
10 Mr. W. Scott Brown.
11 ,, H. R. Uzielli.
12 ,, C. E. Jones.
13 ,, G. T. Boag.
14 ,, R. Madanagopal Nayudu.
15 ,, T. B. Russell.
16 ,, T. Sundara Rao Nayudu.
17 Khan Sahib Syed Tajuddin Sahib Bahadur.
18 Mr. R. M. Palat.
19 ,, I. C. Iswaran Pillai.
20 Diwan Bahadur R. Srinivasan.
21 ,, A. Appadurai Pillai.
22 Mr. G. Ranganatha Mudaliyar.
23 ,, M. Devadasan.
24 Rao Sahib N. Siva Raj.
25 The Zamindar of Kirlampudi.
26 Rao Bahadur B. P. Sesha Reddi.
27 Mr. P. V. Rajagopal Pillai.
28 ,, V. G. Vasudeva Pillai.
29 ,, G. F. F. Foulkes.
30 ,, N. Ranganathan.
31 ,, G. Simhachalam.
32 ,, P. K. Ramachandra Padavachi.
33 Rao Sahib V. Dharmalingam Pillai.
34 Rao Bahadur D. Krishnamurti.
35 ,, Sir A. P. Patro.
36 Sriman M. G. Patnaik Mahasayo.
37 The Maharaja of Venkatagiri.
38 The Kumararaja of Venkatagiri.
39 Khan Bahadur Mahmud Schamnad Sahib Bahadur.
40 The Zamindar of Mirzapuram.
41 The Zamindar of Bodinayakkanur.
42 Mr. Daniel Thomas.
43 ,, G. Sriramulu.
44 ,, C. Indrayya.
45 Khan Bahadur T. M. Moidoo Sahib Bahadur.
46 Rao Sahib C. Jayaram Nayudu.
47 Mr. S. A. A. Annamalai Chettiyar.
48 Rao Sahib D. V. Narasimhaswami.
49 Rao Sahib Pandit Ganala Ramamurti.
50 Mr. A. Harischandrudu Nayudu.
51 ,, K. Kesavaramamurti Nayudu.
52 ,, I. Santhana Gounder.
53 ,, M. S. Sreshta.
54 Rao Bahadur G. Jagannatha Raju.
55 Khan Bahadur Yahya Ali Sahib Bahadur.
56 Rao Sahib V. I. Muniswami Pillai.
57 Mr. A. Ramakrishna Reddi.
58 ,, H. M. Jagannatham.
59 ,, T. Narasa Reddi.
60 Diwan Bahadur M. Gopalaswami Mudaliyar.
61 Rao Bahadur Subadar-Major S. A. Nanjappa Bahadur.
62 Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari.
63 ,, C. Basu Dev.
64 ,, G. R. Premayya.
65 ,, R. Dalavoi.

Neutral.

1 Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar.
2 ,, C. R. Parthasarathi Ayyangar.
3 Mr. G. Rameswara Rao.
4 ,, K. M. Duraiswami Reddiyar.

Ayes 23. *Noes* 65. *Neutral* 4.

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The cut motion was lost.

The Demand was then put and carried and the Grant was made.

The House then adjourned for lunch.

After lunch—2-30 p.m.

DEMAND XII—ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE—RESERVED.

* The Hon. Sir K. V. REDDI NAYUDU :—" Mr. President, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I beg to move that Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 83,11,700 under Demand XII—Administration of Justice—Reserved."

* Mr. DANIEL THOMAS :—" Mr. President, Sir, I beg to move—

' *that the allotment of Rs.* 85,700 *for Administration of Justice—High Court—Judges and Registrar—Pay of officers be reduced by Rs.* 100.'

" In moving this motion I wish to draw the attention of this House to certain aspects of judicial administration in this Province. It is an admitted fact that the sound administration of the department of justice is a very essential factor for the well-being of the people of this Province. It is one of those departments which requires constant vigilance and constant improvements. The price of a sound and satisfactory judicial administration is eternal vigilance. While on the one hand it may be said that the judicial administration of our Province is one of the strongest, best and most efficiently run and least corrupt of the various departments of Government, we should not blind ourselves to the fact that there are various drawbacks and various channels and avenues in that department for improvement. It is a well known fact that at the present day owing to present economic depression, the work in the judicial courts of our Province has considerably gone down almost all over the Province. Owing to the high rate of stamp duty prevailing in our Province, very many people, even for legitimate suits and proceedings are unwilling and are unable to find money for the institution of those suits. In these circumstances motions have been made in this House for reduction of stamp duties, but in view of the present financial stringency of the Government, they are not in a position to reduce the stamp duties. But while the Government are unable to reduce stamp duties, the volume of civil litigation has gone down considerably. We find that motions for grants are being made and proposals are under the consideration of the Government to open additional courts and also appoint additional judges. I do not think there is any justification for the appointment of additional judges or for the opening of additional courts in the circumstances now prevailing in the Province. It may be that there is congestion of work in a particular area in a particular district, but I know that in various other courts there is not enough work to keep the judges going on from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. I think a proper distribution of the areas is necessary to provide sufficient jurisdiction for the various courts and if this is done,

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I think it might be possible, that, without additional judges and without opening new courts, the volume of work which is now pending in our courts of justice could be completed.

"With reference to the administration of criminal justice, year after year cut motions are being tabled and references are made to the necessity for the separation of the judiciary from the executive. That is a matter which has been engaging the attention of this House for a long number of years past and while it is admitted on all hands that the existing arrangement is not at all satisfactory and desirable, still one sees that the day when better conditions will prevail is as far off as ever. It may be that all at once we may not be in a position to effect a complete separation of the judiciary and the executive. But I wish to ask if the Government are making any serious attempts and if, year after year, they are making any progress in the attainment of that goal. No doubt the Government will say that this is a matter which is engaging the attention of the Government of India and until the Government of India finally deals with and disposes of this matter, the Government of Madras will not be in a position to take any effective and final steps in that direction. Without the orders of the Government of India I think it would be possible by means of administrative measures to create more and more of these Stationary Sub-Magistrates who may be in a position to deal with these cases and render justice in criminal courts without the parties and pleaders having to go from place to place. The creation of a larger number of Stationary Sub-Magistrates, I believe, would be at least a half-way house to the final separation of executive and judiciary.

"Again, Sir, in the administration of criminal justice, I have to draw the attention of the Government to the jury system prevailing in our province. I must be thankful and I am glad to say that in my own district of Tinnevelly the present Sessions Judge is taking a very keen interest in reforming the jury system. He has taken several active measures for the purpose of putting down both corruption among jurors and touting among the clients and in these things he has been eagerly and enthusiastically supported by the bar. And as a result of co-operation between the Bench and the Bar, I am glad to say that considerable progress has been made in lessening the evils of both corruption among jurors and touting among civil clientele. But I must submit that this is not a mere local evil. This is not an evil which is confined to any particular area or any particular district of the province. It is an evil which is as wide as the boundaries of the province. There it is a matter in which the provincial Government ought to be wide awake and alert in carrying on active and effective measures for the reform of the jury system in our province. I believe one of the things about which a district judge is expected to report to the Government is the system of jury working in a particular district. We know as a matter of fact in very large number of cases the verdicts of the jury are not really sound and satisfactory. The question is asked why then it is that the judge dose not refer the matter to the High Court if he finds that the verdict

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of the jury is not satisfactory. The reason is that the limited and narrow provisions of the Criminal Procedure Code have been further narrowed down and limited by the decisions of the High Court and the net result is that unless a judge finds that the verdict of the jury is wholly perverse and absolutely unjustifiable on the facts and evidence before the court, he does not make bold to make a reference to the High Court. If it is a mere possibility of the jury arriving at a different decision, the High Court says ' these are the facts and evidence before the jury and it is open to them to have arrived at different conclusions. But we cannot say that the verdict of the jury is wrong and they ought to have arrived at different conclusions on the facts and evidence before them.' I would submit that the lives and liberties of the citizens ought not to be jeopardized in this fashion. If a judge who is trained to a correct appreciation of the evidence, who is trained to be absolutely impartial and dispassionate in the appreciation of evidence comes to a certain conclusion on the facts before him and if he is not in a position to agree with the soundness of the verdict of the jury which sentences a number of people to various terms of imprisonment, I would submit, Sir, that a system of judicial administration which does not permit of the verdict of a judge of that character to prevail over a popular verdict which cannot be so judicial and cannot be supported on the evidence adduced, ought not to exist.

" Sir, there are certain administrative features which to a certain extent are the cause of the unsatisfactory working of the jury system. Take the instance of the batta paid to jurors and assessors. It is expected that the jurors and assessors work honestly and spend a number of days continuously far away from their villages; they give up their business and sacrifice their comforts and spend the best part of the day from 10 o'clock till 5 o'clock waiting in the corridors of the court or actually sitting in the jury box. What is the sort of batta paid to these jurors and assessors? The position, if I am correct, is this. So far as the local jurors are concerned no allowance is paid to them at all. They are supposed to find their own tiffin, I do not know from where. Very often in several courts, for instance in the Tinnevelly court, absolutely no provision is made at all for the waiting room or the consulting room even. If a jury has to go and consult as regards the verdict to be given in a case, the only place open to them is the Judge's chamber. The jury are summoned to appear at 10 o'clock. It often happens that till one o'clock some miscellaneous case is taken up, or some old part-heard case is taken up. All the time the jurors have to wait in the precincts of the court absolutely without any proper place either to rest or to sit or to take tiffin or meals. If there is a bar room, the members of the jury go there and sometimes sit on the arms of the chairs of lawyers or sit behind their chairs. Sir, can a system of administration which treats the jurors and assessors in this way be called satisfactory? Some time ago efforts were made by the Government to put up sheds and buildings for the accommodation of jurors and assessors. But in recent years nothing like that seems to have

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been attempted. Now there are several districts including my own district of Tinnevelly where there is absolutely no provision for accommodation of jurors and assessors. Again, Sir, the assessors who come from a distance are paid, almost 99 per cent of them, third-class batta; that means annas 4 to annas 6 per day. It is a very low and insufficient halting allowance. If we expect respectable men, uncorruptible men, men whom we will have to be placed above temptation, to come up as jurors and assessors, certainly it is the bounden duty of the Government to make satisfactory provision for their halting and travelling allowances and for their accommodation and other conveniences while they attend to the business of the courts. They also form part of the judicial system of the Government and the Government who are so anxious to provide bungalows, waiting chambers and other conveniences for the judges, should also be equally anxious to provide accommodation and other conveniences for the jurors and assessors who also form an integral part of the judicial machinery of the country.

"Sir, as regards the actual administration of criminal justice I would draw attention to the unsatisfactory condition of affairs as regards juvenile offenders. No doubt there are various provisions in the Criminal Procedure Code and also in other enactments dealing with offenders who are young and below a certain age. But I think it is necessary that the Government should draw up and put on the statute book a comprehensive system of legislation dealing with juvenile offenders. As matters stand at present there are various provisions scattered in the various enactments. For example, the Hon. the Law Member is bringing forward a Bill to amend the Borstal Schools Act. There are provisions also in the Criminal Procedure Code as regards first offenders. The Government should declare a certain and specific policy with regard to the treatment of juvenile offenders. They must make provision not only for the manner in which sentences are to be awarded but also for the after-care and after-employment of these persons. Otherwise no system of treatment of juvenile offenders will be satisfactory. In Western countries there are what are known as Inspectors. Whenever a juvenile offender is charged before a court, the Inspector makes enquiries of the antecedents, the family circumstances and the condition of life and up-bringing of the offenders and brings these facts before the court before the sentence is passed. After the sentence has been passed and after it has been served, the juvenile offenders are handed over to the charge of overseers who are certain responsible individuals whether they are Government Inspectors or other philanthropic gentlemen or accredited representatives of certain associations. I submit, Sir, that some such after-care of juvenile offenders is absolutely necessary if these persons are to be prevented from the commission of crimes thereafter.

"Moreover, Sir, our present system of awarding sentences does not take into consideration the previous up-bringing of the offender whether he is a juvenile or not. As such it is an unsatisfactory

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system. The severity of the punishment that is awarded should vary with the individuals. What is a lenient sentence in the case of one man may be an extremely severe one in the case of another. What is justifiable in the case of one man with a certain kind of up-bringing would be extremely unjustifiable in the case of another man. It is not enough if the judge confines himself to the narrow corners of the Evidence Act and limits himself to certain rules and regulations; he should be apprised of the circumstances of the man, his previous character and the conditions of his life. I believe it will be satisfactory also if before the sentence is passed the judge or the magistrate gives an opportunity to the man to explain why such and such a sentence ought not to be passed on him. The procedure now is to take evidence on a certain day, then hear the arguments and adjourn the case to another day for delivering judgment. On that particular day the offender appears and the judge says that such and such a sentence is passed on him. But no opportunity is given either to the man himself or to his advocate to show cause why the proposed sentence should not be passed on him and whether there are any peculiar circumstances in his case to warrant a lenient sentence. These circumstances are exactly not judicial circumstances; they are matters which are more or less alien to the actual merits of the case in question, but the individual or the party affected should be given an opportunity at the last stage before the sentence is passed to make a reference to those circumstances and conditions of life. Suppose, for instance, in a particular case a judge or a magistrate fines a man Rs. 200. What exactly are the circumstances of the man, whether he has got the capacity to pay the fine, whether on account of the non-payment of the fine he will have to go to jail—these are matters which the magistrate or the judge is absolutely unaware of. There are no means, no procedure and no opportunity for the magistrate to acquaint himself with these facts. I believe there is an Act in England or an Act is proposed to be passed under which the cases of all persons who have to go to jail for non-payment of fine will have to be considered. I am not aware of the exact provisions but I know that the object of the enactment is to prevent people going to jail for non-payment of fine in cases where they are unable to pay the fine. I ask: Is there any similar provision in our country? Are there not any number of cases of people who are sentenced to a fine but have to go to prison on account of the non-payment of the fine because they are not able to pay the fine? Have the Government looked up the cases, have they taken statistics of cases of imprisonment for lack of means to pay the fines imposed? There should be some sort of provision by which the Government can in proper cases excuse non-payment of fine. It is a most iniquitous provision. I may be pardoned for using strong language, but I believe it is iniquitous. If a man is sentenced to pay a fine and if for the time being he is unable to pay it, he is put in jail. (The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu: 'He is given time.') Yes, a short time, a week or ten days; not a question of months or years. Even then he should give proper surety. Very often the magistrate demands proper surety

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if the payment of fine is delayed. Otherwise he is made to serve a term of imprisonment. But, the sentence of fine also is kept outstanding even though he has served out his sentence of imprisonment. The fine is realized by the attachment of immovable property and so on. Sir, even though the man has suffered the penalty for the non-payment of the fine, still the Government are not prepared to remit the fine and excuse the non-payment. Certainly, Sir, the provisions of a system like that ought to be modified and amended so as to remove those features.

"Then, Sir, as regards the non-payment of civil debts, I believe we are still in a very backward state. The various countries of the world have advanced a great deal and have abolished the system of imprisonment for non-payment of civil debts. Now, Sir, by the Government retaining the provision of imprisonment for non-payment of civil debt, they are simply forcing people to file insolvency applications. If a man is unable to pay his debts and has to go to jail, the only provision of law by which he can escape going to jail is by applying for a declaration of insolvency. We know, Sir, that insolvency leaves a stigma on the man's character; it handicaps him in his future career and brands him as a dishonest person. His chances of making an honest living in the future are jeopardised. I believe it is high time that the system of imprisonment for non-payment of debt is abolished. There are still other remedies open to law, such as the attachment of immovable property and movable property and so on.

n. "That, I believe, would be a sufficient and satisfactory provision for the collection of civil debts instead of driving the person to the insolvency court. I would therefore strongly urge on the Government that in all these respects, in the matter of the selection of assessors and jurors and proper accommodation for their convenience in very many courts, in the matter of treatment of juvenile offenders and also in the matter of non-payment of fines and civil debts, satisfactory provisions should be made for the purpose of improving our system.

"In this connexion I have to refer to one point. I believe the Judicial department is one of the departments which is most coveted in Government service. I believe, Sir, that every community in our province is desirous that they should have fit and proper representatives belonging to their community in the judicial service. No doubt, Sir, the fundamental thing is that we should have honest, capable and efficient judicial officers. That is the first and foremost thing. Subject to that consideration, it is up to the Government to see that opportunities are given to members of all communities to serve the judicial administration of our province. With reference to the recruitment of district munsifs, the old system of selection by the High Court is still in vogue. A change is going to be effected probably in the near or more distant future; the system of recruitment of district munsifs will be taken over by the Public Service Commission. We cannot prophesy when exactly that is going to happen. I would submit that the present

system is not as satisfactory as it should be. I would only mention that in the last selection that was made by the High Court, of district munsifs, about twenty men were selected; but I am surprised to see that of these twenty men, not one Indian Christian was selected. Surely there were several applicants from the Indian Christian community. Taking into consideration the large number of Law graduates amongst Indian Christians, I would submit that it is strange and surprising that not one single Indian Christian has been selected, although there were several applicants on this particular occasion. (Interruption by Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari.) The hon. Member (Mr. Krishnayya Choudari) is very insistent in matters relating to his district; but in this case, not belonging to the legal profession himself, he is hostile to the claims of the legal profession."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—" I may correct the hon. Member. He is also anxious to speak on this demand."

* Mr. DANIEL THOMAS:—" Then I hope he may speak in a judicial spirit, without any hostility to the legal profession. I would submit that, taking into consideration the number of Indian Christian Law graduates who are practising in the various parts of the Presidency, the representation of Indian Christians both on the bench and in the clerical staff of the various civil courts in the province is not adequate and satisfactory. So far as the higher ranks of the judiciary is concerned, the position of Indian Christians is utterly and totally inadequate. There was an Indian Christian Judge on the High Court; there was an Indian Christian Chief Justice of the Small Cause Court; there were several Indian Christian District Judges. Now, there is no Indian Christian on the High Court Bench or in the Small Cause Court. I believe the members of the Muslim community also have been legitimately giving expression to this grievance of theirs. After a good deal of agitation one member of the Indian Christian community has been appointed to the City Civil Court now. I believe that this appointment was long overdue. In spite of that appointment I still say that adequate justice has not been done to the claims of Indian Christians to be recruited to the judiciary and to the clerical and subordinate ranks of the judicial service."

* Mr. C. R. PARTHASARATHI AYYANGAR:—" Mr. President, Sir, I heartily support Mr. Daniel Thomas on many points. I should like to refer to some points. The first point I would like to state is that, because the judiciary in this province is still pure to a considerable extent, we are able to get on in life however handicapped we may be in other respects. I am not talking of any particular thing. But I want to lay stress on the fact that if the judiciary of the land is free from passion and prejudice, the Legislative Council work will be much better helped than it is now. The judicial line has got a peculiar advantage in that every evil that cries for remedy is brought before a court of justice in some form or other; it may be in the form of a small cause suit; or it may probably be only a plaint valued at six annas; or it may come in any other form, original suit or appellate

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suit. The evils that cry for remedy always come before a court of justice in some form or other and a wakeful and vigilant judge can give us many points for legislation which I think is not now sufficiently thought of by judges, especially those who occupy the higher ranks of the judiciary. For instance, we used to have suggestions in the Law Reports previously that this is a matter in which the legislature may interfere. Take, for instance, some customs which have become defunct, usages and customs which are very useful and which are now falling into disuse. There are many matters connected with succession, adoption, etc. We should like to have very many suggestions from the judges as to the way in which reforms can be brought about especially in the ordinary affairs of life, which regulate the relationship between man and man. There is singular lack of suggestions from the judiciary on matters which require urgent attention. Seeing that the judiciary and the Legislative Council have to co-operate I would suggest that there should be best choice of judges. Any person who has got race prejudice or caste prejudice is hardly fit to adorn the bench. But how often do we find that people exhibit symptoms of this *phobia* in several cases which make them unfit to view things from the commonsense point of view and to restore the disturbed equilibrium which makes the party to come to a court. No party comes to court unless this equilibrium or friendly attention or some other relationship is disturbed; and he comes to a court of law with the best hope that the disturbed equilibrium will be restored; then the people are satisfied. The judiciary of the land is not now as satisfactory as it was some decades ago: the Law Reports are very full of conflicting judgments of two judges or of the same judge. That is perhaps the reason why people are not resorting to court of law now in large numbers. What is the cause that drives people to the court? The disturbance of the equilibrium induces people to come to a court of law. I would suggest that in the appointment of judges, whether magistrates, munsifs, sub-judges, district judges or High Court Judges, the principle must always be whether this man will have the confidence of the public, whether the man is free from passion and prejudice, whether he will hold the scales even. Look at it from the human standpoint and not artificial point of view. Many of our district munsifs have only artificial methods. They are simply guided by the rule of evidence, etc. They have got to do so because they have to show disposal of a large number of cases. Therefore I would submit that we have to recruit people who have judicial sense, judicial commonsense, judicial judgment and who would look at things from a judicial or impartial point of view. I find that such people are very rare now. Perhaps the present judges do not want perhaps to exercise their deeper layer of commonsense, because the question of disposal stands now very prominently in the minds of several judges. Reminders may come enquiring about the number of cases disposed of. This is not the way in which justice is to be weighed. Judges should be chosen from people who would look at things from commonsense point of view and from human point of view. When we come across people

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sometimes with prejudice, people think what is the use of putting their case before them. Such things are becoming more common now than ever before. Therefore great care should be taken in recruiting the right sort of persons to the judiciary; they should not consider the fact that the man belongs to a particular community. The only question that should be considered is whether a person is fit to be a judge. We want people with real ability, not people who will play to the gallery as several people do now, not people who do things to please some people.

" The next point I wish to refer to is about the jury system. The 3-1
jury system should be introduced not only in sessions cases but also in P.M.
civil cases. But then a careful discrimination has to be made in respect of persons who are to serve on the jury. There is a legislative enactment which says that people who have got a knowledge of law ought not to serve as jurors or even bench magistrates. Now, Sir, the number of lawyers is increasing and many of them are out of practice. I wonder why Government should not take advantage of the experience of people who have retired from active practice or who have no judicial work to do or in whom the judges have confidence and say in their case 'this man can serve as a juror.' Collectors and District Judges generally sit once in a year for about an hour or two for the purpose of selecting jurors to dispose of criminal cases. The District Judge consults the District Magistrate probably for an hour before he makes up the list. The point to be considered in selecting a juror is: ' Is he a man to whom I can commit the liberties of the people, or is he one of those people who will be easily swayed by money or other considerations.' I would respectfully submit that in criminal cases where the liberty of people is at stake, people who have got a definite knowledge of law and can, from the very life that they lead, be said to be respectable people, ought to be chosen with greater caution than is now done. If that system can be applied so far as criminal law is concerned, we can very easily extend it to civil cases also. Civil cases can be disposed of by itinerary judges, deciding cases in the very villages or places in which the disturbances arose. If that is done, the number of second and first appeals would be considerably cut down. There are too many first and second appeals now—I am not of course speaking from a lawyer's point of view, but from the standpoint of a publio citizen. You must be prepared to give a sort of satisfaction to the people; they must think: ' we have got a fair judge; we have got a fair jury.' ' Let them dispose of our cases.' Why should these people be asked to go in for first and second appeals, and thus increase the judges and jurors? The only way in which to give satisfaction to the people is to have a good judge and a good jury. I would therefore suggest that in criminal cases as well as in civil cases, we must have a jury system which can be compared to the finest gold taken out of the impure ore. Of course I would advocate nomiuation of these people; no question of election in these matters. The forest panchayats and the village panchayats—they suffer now because they are all

thrown open to election. I would much rather that power is held in the hands of people who are fit to exercise it with discretion.

"The bench magistrate system is at present most unsatisfactory. In large towns and cities these bench magistrates are absolutely unsuited to administer the law and a better set of people must be found. There must be a more judicial system followed and a more careful scrutiny should be made into the character of the people; and that will give a better type of bench magistrates and jurors. The jury system has to be purified, and if you want to have the confidence of the people, the present system will have to be considerably remodelled and probably revised once in three years.

"Now I come to the question of juvenile offenders. It is really a pity that the Criminal Procedure Code, in spite of the latitude that it gives, is not fully utilized for the purpose of giving freedom to young men who might have had the urge to commit crimes all of a sudden. Very often, experience has shown that people tumble into a wrong field, not because they want to violate the law but because on the spur of the moment they were misled into committing the crime. Now, a system of vindictive punishment is positively wrong in such cases. I know in many cases that young men who have been in jail even for a few days have been rendered miserable and absolutely lost to all sensibility, because of their being thrown into bad company, with people, association with whom even for a few hours is enough to make them lose their sensibility. The greatest curse that we can have in this country, especially in the case of young lads, is to put them in jail even for a few hours along with admittedly bad people. It is a most lamentable feature that the magistrates and deputy magistrates do not use the powers that are even now given to them by the Criminal Procedure Code, giving them a free latitude in the matter of dealing with people who lose their balance and commit offences unwittingly. I would even urge that a special report every year may be published under the authority of the Government, showing with what care and judicial discretion, so many people have been saved from association with bad people. If this is done, I am sure so many people will thank the Government and the magistrate for saving them from the jaws of bad company, by using discretion and showing some latitude to people who commit offences for the first time. I know a certain judge took up a certain case in the District Court of Chittoor, and unfortunately convicted the offender. Why could he not give the man a chance of being on probation? Well, some time after, a similar case came up before another Judge, but he decided that the punishment given ought not to be confirmed. Now, look at the attitude of the two Judges who took an entirely different view. One thinks that the man should be given an opportunity to mend himself, while the other thinks that he does not deserve it. Well, the real point is this: The Judge must look at the juvenile offender from a human point of view; he ought not to say at once that the man should be thrashed. Some Judges are of the impression that these young people ought to be

thrashed and given as cruel a punishment as possible, while other Judges take quite a different view and think that such people should be given an opportunity of redeeming themselves. I would urge that these people should be given an opportunity of redeeming themselves and not sent to jail thereby making them human wrecks for life. I strongly advocate that District Magistrates should be asked to send circulars—as they do in so many other cases—encouraging the bench magistrates to give as free a latitude as possible to these young men, even though they may be more than eighteen, and save them from being clapped into prison for things which they might not have done in their saner moments. As I said, I would like to have a report every year showing how many of these people are being saved from jail life.

"Then I come to an important point. These magistrates are not themselves the masters of the situation in most cases. Some policeman comes and says 'you must do this and that.' I have seen such things myself. For judicial purposes no doubt we may ignore it, but it is a well-known experience that no sub-magistrate or deputy magistrate before his confirmation ever thinks of disobeying or acting against the wishes of a policeman. It will be invidious for me to mention a few, but my discretion prevents me from disclosing their names. None-the-less, it is a fact that the Abkari Inspector commands more respect in a sub-magistrate's court than a vakil. A policeman or a police sub-inspector can even threaten a magistrate. In the face of such things, how can the sub-magistrate exercise his judicial discretion in regard to the offenders? It is only with great tact and skill that we can induce the sub-magistrate to refer the case to a District Magistrate who will be a little more lenient, especially if he is confirmed. There are so many evils existing in society, but they can be remedied by a judicious use of judicial tact. More people may be appointed, as magistrates and jurors, but they must all be men of character. It does not matter to what caste they belong, Indian Christian, Muhammadan, etc. We hear sometimes in this Council that these appointments should be given to Muhammadans, Christians, and all that. That seems to me to be begging the question. What we really want is purity; and if we cannot get that, we can as well get the whole world and lose our soul."

* Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder:—"Mr. President, Sir, in supporting the cut motion, I shall deal with the question of delay in the disposal of cases in the courts of law. You know, Sir, that these inordinate delays add much to the cost of litigation of the parties. The other day when we were speaking on the Demand for Stamps, we were urging for the reduction of stamp duty. I doubt very much whether the Hon. the Law Member is going to effect any reduction in that direction; but even if that is not possible, I would urge that the Hon. Member may at least see that the suits are disposed of as expeditiously as possible by the law courts, and thereby the expenditure incurred by the parties are kept at a low level without the Government foregoing any part of their revenue. Just a little while ago, I heard

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from some hon. Members of this House that even small suits filed in the years 1928 and 1930 are still pending. Their disposal seems to have been commenced and they are still pending. I shall give a concrete example. My hon. Friend, Mr. Raman Menon, told me that he filed a suit in 1930, and all these five years and more, it has only been part-heard; the examination of the plaintiff was just over and hearing the other side has yet to be commenced. In another case, I heard from another hon. Member that the suit has been pending from the year 1928. Other instances too are not wanting to substantiate this accepted facts of law's delay. So, I would request the Hon. the Law Member to pass strict orders for the disposal of suits as expeditiously as possible without giving room for the least delay and thus help the litigant public to have some savings in their expenditure on litigation, which is becoming too wasteful and extravagant.

"Then with regard to jurors and assessors, I heartily endorse every word of my friend, Mr. Daniel Thomas. He has elaborately dealt with the question, and it is therefore not necessary for me to go into it again. I would however urge on the Hon. the Law Member to look into the question at once and to make a speedy and favourable disposal of it. I would recall to his memory that even during the last year's budget, he promised that he would look into the question, but I do not know how far he has progressed in the matter. I also sent up a petition to him which I got from some people in my constituency in this behalf. I do not know at what stage the said petition is now at present. My hon. Friend, Mr. Boag, nods his head; probably it has been lodged, and he does not remember it—I am anxious to know the result of it and I request the Hon. the Law Member to give his earnest and best consideration to this question and dispose of it early. He must see that the dignity of jurors and assessers is maintained in the matter of justice by treating them properly, giving them all facilities, so that they may not be put to the necessity of being under the mercy of this party or that party even to meet their daily needs during their stay at the headquarters on this important and onerous duty. If the present state of affairs is continued I do not know where it will lead to. So, the earlier it is attended to, the better.

"Then, Sir, I shall take up the question of some of the employees in the Judicial Department, especially the case of the copyists. The other day, when speaking on the demand regarding 'stamps', my hon. Friend, Mr. Koti Reddi, had dealt with the matter citing the elaborate calculations he had made and said that there were much savings in respect of this direction also. Even if there is not much of a saving in this direction I would urge on the Hon. the Law Member . ."

Mr. K. Koti Reddi:—"On a matter of personal explanation, Sir, I did not say anything of that kind. I only pointed out that so much inconvenience was caused to the copyists and I did not calculate any profit or loss in regard to this particular item. I said that on the whole they were making about 50 lakhs."

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* Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder :—" I understood him to say that he had made calculations under each and every item and that he found there were savings in this direction also. Whatever it may be, Sir, even if there is no specific saving, I think this copyist establishment should be treated as a permanent establishment and that the privileges enjoyed by other permanent establishments also should be given to them. I am told that the members of this establishment are not being given even the medical leave and such other privileges in times of absolute need, and he will have to lose his wages for the period. He has nothing as future prospects such as promotion, pension, etc. This is a matter, Sir, in which Government should bestow some attention in view of the fact that this establishment also renders equally valuable service both to the Government and to the public and therefore that they should be kept on a par with the other ministerial establishments of this department. So, I would urge on the Government the necessity of taking up this question and having it examined with a view to remedy their grievances.

" Let me now pass on to the process-servers establishment. Even last year we had our say in this matter, but I do not know how far the action on the observations of the hon. Members of this House has progressed till now. Here the first and foremost grievance of these people seems to be that their association has not been recognized. It is a pity that even this small request has not been accepted. If they approach the Government with this request, they say, ' go to the High Court ', and if they go to the High Court, it says, ' see your District Judge ' and even if the District Judge recommends and writes to the High Court, the High Court does not seem to move in this direction; and the Government also do not seem to take any interest in the matter . . ."

The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu :—" That is not correct, but we have been taking action."

* Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder :—" What I request of the Hon. the Law Member is to see that favourable orders are passed in regard to this matter, instead of going on taking action indefinitely.

" In this connexion, I would also like to point out that this process-servers department is giving additional trouble to the litigant public in demanding illegal gratification for every service they do which are otherwise paid already. The defect underlying this practice seems to me, Sir, that because they are not properly paid, they are obliged to take to such illegal means which adds to the burden of the litigant public. I wish that Government take up a detailed examination of the question to see that in regard to this matter also the litigant public are saved.

" Sir, I will not be satisfied if I do not voice forth the needs of my district and I am not ashamed of making it because our needs are such. Now I will not rest content until some tangible remedy is got for them. I find that there is a tendency on the part of the Government to take to the

matter of providing residences for their officers. Of course, I do not grudge them this. But, I would like the Government to take up first of all things which the public in general are in need of before they wish to satisfy the needs of their officers. In my own district, namely, Salem, I have myself seen a part of the court-hall of the Sub-Judge being used as a lumber room and all the lawyers and vakils have to be huddled up in the rest of the space available in that hall. My hon. Friend, Mr. Daniel Thomas pointed out that in his place lawyers have to sit on the arms of chairs for want of proper accommodation for them. But here even that facility is not to be found, but they have to stand as if the crowds of people do in a weekly market; and it is not fair that they should be allowed to be like that, more especially when the Government are making from them large amounts by way of admission fees or fees of enrolment. When the Sub-Court itself is in this condition, the condition of the District Munsif's Courts may well be imagined rather than described.

" Even in regard to the facilities for the parties, I must say that it is absolutely lacking; there is much to be desired, both in the District Court as well as in the Munsifs' Courts of Salem. The parties are squatting on the verandas all round and are being repremanded by the court peon for their whispering. I have been drawing the attention of the Government in regard to these matters by means of interpellations and I hope Government will look into these matters and see that these needs are satisfied. The Bar room attached to the District Munsif's Court at Salem also needs immediate attention, as it is likely to cause danger.

" Last but not least, Sir, I wish to refer to the question of providing post-mortem sheds at Yedapady and Sankari for which I have been agitating year after year. I have also given notice of specific cut motion in this behalf. Not only this year, but in previous years too I have been drawing the attention of the Government towards this question. Ever since I have been connected with the Sankari Taluk Board, I think from the year 1928, I have been doing my best to see that the dispensaries are provided with proper post-mortem sheds but nothing substantial has been done so far. After all it is not a big affair and won't cost the Government many thousands of rupees; a few hundreds or at the most a thousand rupees will do. Instead of spending such a small amount to show some respect and decency to sacred mortal frame of human beings, the Government are allowing post-mortem examinations specially at Yedapady being performed in the gaze of the public. Such a state of affairs should not be allowed to continue any longer. I therefore request the Government to look into the question and see that at least in the coming year they put up these post-mortem sheds; with these words, Sir, I once again express my support to the motion."

* Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—" Sir, if I rise to support this motion, it is to press the cut motion about which I have given notice

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and to get a proper answer from the Government. The cut motion which I have given notice of is this:

> '*To reduce the allotment of Rs.* 15,39,300 *for Administration of Justice—Mufassal Civil and Sessions Courts—Regular Establishments—Pay of Officers by Rs.* 100.

[To elicit complete information regarding the incident of the Collector and District Judge of South Kanara going to the Sub-Court on the 9th December 1935 and seizing papers of the suit in which the Sub-Judge gave a decree against the Collector in his private capacity; in particular to elicit information as to whether the Collector when he complained to the High Court disclosed that he was a party to the suit and that a defeated party; whether the High Court sent the order of search to the District Judge directly or through the Collector; and whether the High Court directed that the Collector should be taken by the District Judge when the search was made and the seizure of the papers effected.']

" Sir, this case has roused considerable amount of apprehension in the minds of the public that the judiciary is being overawed by the executive and tried to be victimised for its judicial acts. The facts of the case are these. There was a small cause suit for rent against the Collector in his private capacity. On the day it came up before the Sub-Court or rather before the day it actually was tried, the advocate for the Collector admitted that he had no case on facts, but the only thing was a question of law as to whether a tenant who has effected improvements . . ."

Khan Bahadur MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB Bahadur:—" On a point of order, Mr. President. I think the case is pending before the High Court, and is it proper to go into the merits of the case now, Sir? "

* Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—" Sir, I am not going into the merits of the case. Also, the case has been decided. Coming to the subject, Sir, the advocate for the Collector admitted that he had no case on facts, but that there might be a question of law as to whether a tenant who has made necessary improvements without the notice of the landlord can claim a set-off in the rental. The advocate wanted time to cite authorities, if any, in support of this question of law. On the day on which the case was posted for hearing the question of law, the vakil reported to the Sub-Judge that his client wished to be examined, so that he might make his position clear; and the trial actually took place that day. At the time the trial took place, I was also one of the persons present; and it looked as if the Collector was not on trial, but that it was the Sub-Judge who was on trial. But, I am glad to say that the Sub-Judge acquitted himself nobly and bravely, gave his decision on the case which is admitted on all hands to be correct and it was what the Collector's vakil himself had stated on the previous day that he had no case on facts. After all these things had taken place, about eight days after, suddenly one morning, on 9th December 1935, when the Hon. the Law Member himself was present

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in the town of Mangalore, almost under his very nose, the Collector was seen going to the house of the District Judge with some letter and the Collector seems to have taken the District Judge and gone to the Sub-Court at about 11 o'clock in the morning and asked for the typist; but the typist was not there; they were informed that the typist might be in the Sub-Judge's house. From the Sub-Court, these two gentlemen, the District Judge and the Collector, motored to the Sub-Judge's house and asked for the shorthand-typist. It was found that he had gone to the hotel for his meals; I do not know whether these persons went to the hotel also. Anyhow, when the Sub-Judge went to the Sub-Court, he found both the Collector and the District Judge in his room in the Sub-Court talking to the typist who had by that time arrived. The Sub-Judge also went there and some papers were taken possession of by the District Judge; and we heard that the papers which were connected with the very suit were sent to the High Court and that in a week afterwards they were returned by the High Court. The Bar Association of the place finding that this procedure was extra-legal and was calculated to overawe the judiciary—I would even use the word 'txtraordinary'—wanted to elicit facts from the District Judge and so waited in deputation on the District Judge. But the District Judge would not give the information on that day, but on a subsequent day he told them that he took the District Collector who was a party to the suit under instructions from the High Court. Of course the High Court might have very good reasons for sending this order; but the question remains, what the allegations were that were made and how the High Court came to act in this fashion; whether the Collector made an oral complaint to the High Court or a written complaint or whether it was supported by an affidavit; and also whether he disclosed the fact that he was a private party and that an injured party in the suit. If the Collector had disclosed the fact to the High Court that he himself was a private party and an injured party, I am certain that the High Court would not have interfered in the matter and would not have sent such an order. Secondly, Sir, the facts show, or at least give rise to the suspicion that the order was not sent to the District Judge directly, but that it was sent to the District Judge through the Collector. If that is so why was the order not sent direct to him? If it is a fact—I do not know if it is correct, I merely, surmise—the further question arises as to why that order was not sent directly to the District Judge or why the District Judge was distrusted or suspected? That is the question which I would like to ask the Hon. the Law Member. (The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu: 'You don't give us facts; you yourself say, it is your suspicion or surmise.') I have stated the facts, Sir, and the deductions therefore are more than suspicions. I have made my allegations and it is for the Hon. the Law Member to admit or deny them and state the correct facts.

"Then again, Sir, the next question is, whether the Collector wrote a private letter as a friend or whether he talked over the matter personally or whether he acted in a judicial manner by putting an application supported by an affidavit? My submission therefore is, here

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you have got a case where a private party to a suit goes to the High Court and talks the matter over without producing anything substantial in support of whatever allegations he might make and gets them to send an order. This is a very deplorable state of affairs. I really wonder how the High Court came to act upon a thing where, as we understand it, there is not even an affidavit in support of the allegations of the Collector but mere malicious and vengeful reports made by defeated party to a suit against the judge—may be, Sir, that the party is a European and a Collector too to boot. How could the High Court ever 3
come to act upon it? I may say that the District Judge has told the P
members of the Bar that it was under the instructions of the High Court that he took the District Magistrate along with him. Surely, Sir, the District Judge of the calibre of Mr. Amir-ud-din who has got a very keen sense of the prestige and honour of the judiciary would not have himself taken a private party to the court and acted in the way in which he did act unless he had orders from the High Court. My submission is as to why the High Court ordered that a private party should be present. If that is the atmosphere in which the judiciary has to work how can the judiciary maintain its integrity? How can any judge give judgment against any civilian or against any European as against an Indian? I am glad and proud to say that so far as the judiciary is concerned it has kept its head level. Though there are stray cases here and there, the general rule has been to keep a level head and dispense justice between man and man whether it be Indian or European, civilian or non-civilian, whether it be Government or private individual. But circumstances such as this will have a bad effect on the judiciary. I wish the integrity and independence of the judiciary is maintained. I can say, Sir, that some years ago there was a precedent which the Hon. the Law Member can well follow here. In the days when Sir K. Srinivasa Ayyangar was the Law Member there was a case filed in the Madura Sub-Court. Mr. T. C. Srinivasa Ayyangar told me of this and Mr. K. R. Venkatrama Ayyar who appeared in the case confirmed the information. Occasion was in connexion with the Sivaganga zamindari suit. Certain persons filed a suit for the Sivaganga zamindari and summoned the Government to produce certain documents. The Government said that the documents were not in their possession. Then the Collector suggested the dismissal of the suit rather than continue the summons which will be ineffective. (The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu: 'Is it suggested that there is anything of that kind in this case?') No, I do not suggest. What I suggest is that the executive has been interfering with the judiciary and trying to show its power. (The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu: 'I thought the case was closed and judgment was delivered before this alleged incident is said to have taken place.') The only difference between this and that is that it was before the judgment and this was after the judgment. But the interference is there. That is for asking the judge to dispose of a suit in a particular way, but this is for victimising the judge for disposing of a suit in a particular manner and punishing him for having acted in a particular manner. I was told

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the matter came before the Government and the then Law Member insisted upon an apology being given by Mr. Evans to the Sub-Judge. Now, Sir, this case concerns the independence of the judiciary. That is practically the only thing that is left to us. Even if some of the laws may be hard we can get some sort of justice if we go to a court of law. If matters continue like this it is very difficult to get justice. I wish the Hon. the Law Member gives us some information and allays the public apprehensions by giving an assurance that such things will not recur and the integrity and prestige of the judiciary will be maintained unimpaired. I wish, Sir, the Hon. Member calls for full information and takes such action as would prevent the recurrence of such behaviour in future."

* Mr. G. Rameswara Rao:—"Sir, mention has been made of the outstanding features in the department and therefore I will only deal with what has been omitted and that is the position of the unpassed clerks in the Judicial department. The question has been raised several times, I suppose. Representations have been sent in and memorials were received by Government as regards the status of these people. It is now twenty years and more and yet they are not allowed to draw the usual increment which other clerks are permitted to draw in th usual course. Persons who have put in twenty years and more of servic discharging their duties to the best satisfaction of their superiors ar now being made to rot on their initial salary without any chance o getting any increment. This is a serious injustice which has been don to them and so far as I know, in other departments of Government service they are not inconveniencing their trusted and long servin servants like this. I hope the Government would consider this aspec of the case and treat these judicial servants with some clemency whic other departments have been extending in the case of their servants (The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu: 'Who are these clerks?') Un passed clerks who became permanent more than twenty years ago and wh are not allowed to draw increments because they did not stand the test o modern rules and qualifications.

"The next point is that of the juries. It has been said that th jurors are not being treated properly. With that statement I am i full agreement. As regards the method by which the list of jurors i being prepared the lists are made and filled in by some subordinat clerks in the Revenue department and are sent up to the Collector. O a fine morning, the Collector and Judge make a show of sitting togethe for ten minutes in the District Court and call for complaints and n complaints are usually received and consequently they disperse. Thi is how these things are managed. (The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu 'What are they? I am here to answer that.') Instances, there ar of cases where some people were so solicitous as to even apply in writin to put in their names so that they may acquire a status for themselve social or economic or whatever it may be. Whereas there are son other cases where citizens refuse to be in the jury list and try to mana with the tahsildar or revenue inspector and request him if it is in h

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power to omit certain names from the list. Is it not up to the Government to see how these two things are reconciled? Should you allow certain people to get their names introduced by the tahsildars and should you allow others to go off merely because they represent and point out that they will be inconvenienced by being put on jurors' list? This is a matter which requires their best consideration. You must see that the best men are put in. This is a difficulty in administration of justice. It is these self-selected people that figure in the jury lists to an inordinate extent and the more respectable people are very few by both choice and by inadvertent omission. When this is so, it is no wonder that justice fails more often than not, especially in jury cases and consequently the prestige of the administration of law falls very low in the eyes of the people who are administered.

"Then, *coming to the other question of* law's delays, I know some Munsifs are overworked and some are enjoying a holiday. The difficulty lies in arranging the jurisdiction properly. The Law Member knows that litigation is very much on the decrease and does not mind the economic loss caused thereby. At the same time, I would request him to consider whether so many munsifs should be retained and paid without rearranging the jurisdiction. When one place was overworked like Proddatur, twice the files were transferred to Nandalur and Cuddapah. When Gooty was overworked, cases were transferred to Anantapur court. Why should they allow one court to accumulate the work? Is it not possible to see that the distribution of areas is so adjusted as to give each munsif a suitable area so that work could be equitably distributed in all district munsifs' courts concerned. It is certainly a matter for the Government to consider though it is for the High Court to readjust. They may ask the High Court to compare the figures and see how redistribution can be made. There is a complaint that the cost of litigation is becoming more and more high and yet Government does not come to the rescue of the litigant public. In the matter of giving some relief to the ryots and the litigant public they can suggest some small remedies. In the first place the defendant's notices may always be made to be issued through post. Very often when a suit is filed, Sir, the process-server takes the notices and gets the pittance of a rupee or two from the other side and reports that the defendant is absent and the plaintiff is insisted upon to take out notices and even on the fourth occasion for fresh notice, some courts do not permit substituted service. To avoid this unending expense of litigation, I would suggest as a matter of rule and routine that notices may be sent by registered post even at the outset. Discretion is given to use this post, but it is not freely taken advantage of. So I think an administrative direction may be given to the munsifs to do this as a matter of routine. Then, Sir, there is another hardship to the litigants. For the first hearing parties take out summons to witnesses and pay batta. Witnesses are all there and because of older suits, courts feel precedence must be given to work in order. Though all the witnesses are there, the case is unavoidably adjourned and in such cases the witnesses might be bound over. Ordinarily, the munsifs and the judges

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adjourn for a week and say 'why not take out batta again?' It is easy for them to say so. The party is bound to pay for it and it is unnecessary waste of money and needless addition to the costs of litigation. This at least may be remedied by the Government though they are unwilling to reduce the stamp-fee. Even here, the Law Member is avaricious for some more revenue by way of process-fees. (The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu: 'Nothing of the kind, Sir. The only question is whether you should restrain the discretion of the judge concerned.') I am very glad that the Hon. the Law Member gives the contradiction for my presumption. I may say that the discretion should be based on economic considerations. (The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu: 'Mr. Bhatt wants judicial independence.') I want the discretion to be exercised in favour of the litigant.

"I do not think that the litigant should be made to pay process fees and batta every time, especially when the law allows discretion to the judge to adopt other methods of getting the presence of witnesses secured. I only pray that the Government might issue administrative instructions that when the party asks that witnesses might be bound over, the court must bind them over as a matter of course. It is not a matter of revenue at all, but it is a matter of pure convenience. So far as the Government officers are concerned, they think it is their bounden duty to replenish the Government coffers rather than look to the convenience of the litigants. This attitude must be changed by administrative directions.

"Then there is another source of revenue to the Government. The Government has recently made a rule, and that is only two years old. I do not know whether there is any remedy if the Government itself passes fiscal laws by executive fiats. I am referring to the matter of applications for munsifs' places. Till two years ago, no application fees were required, and now they are asking candidates to pay Rs. 15 when they want to apply for the munsif's place. This seems to be a tax which is not sanctioned by the Court Fees Act or by any other law. Government seems to think perhaps that it will add to the revenues one way or the other. Everytime two to three thousand applications will be received for munsifs' places, out of which only twenty or thirty will be selected. After all these people are going to be selected from particular districts, because no two districts can have a consecutive chance on two successive occasions. In spite of that, people apply hoping against hope. But, is it right that the Hon. the Law Member or the Government should exploit such a hope on the part of the applicants and enrich themselves at the cost of innocent public who are crying out for a solution of the unemployment problem? I would submit that it will be fair if the Government or the High Court advertise stating the particular districts from which appointments in that year will be made, so that the applications may be restricted to residents of those districts so that others might not waste their money in such needless enterprise.

"One more thing I have to mention is about the technical cruelty of the Arms Act. Irrespective of the status or the antecedents or the

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capacity or the motive or the character of a person, if a man holding a licence for arms unfortunately forgets the date on which his licence should be renewed or keeps the gun in his possession for 24 hours beyond the last date of the licence without depositing it in the police station, at once a prosecution is launched against him, and this is a cruelty which is unparalleled."

The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu:—" I do not administer that Act."

Mr. G. Rameswara Rao:—" I am glad he does not administer that Act. However, my suggestion is quite warranted at the same time as he is a Member of the Cabinet in which his Hon. Colleague administering the Act sits along with him. I would like to impress upon him and make it appear to the other hon. Gentleman that cruelty does not pay either to the Government or to the public. There must be some sort of discretion exercised before a man who delays to renew his licence by 24 hours is prosecuted."

The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu:—" Even in the Ceded districts where they shoot people like birds? "

Mr. G. Rameswara Rao:—" Sir, there are men and men. I was telling the Hon. Mr. Bracken the other day that the citizens of Madras are greater rowdies than the citizens of the Ceded districts inasmuch as they require the care of more highly paid police force than the mufassalites. Therefore, Sir, I submit that even in the Ceded districts there are men and men. I may mention the instance of a Vaisya merchant who pays an income-tax of Rs. 5,000, and I am told he is being prosecuted for a delay of 24 hours or 24 days. This sort of cruelty may be avoided with advantage to the Government as well as to the citizens."

* The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu:—" Mr. President, Sir, the various points raised perhaps might be taken up in the order in which they have been advanced. My hon. Friend, Mr. Daniel Thomas, reverted to the subject of court-fees being very heavy and litigation going down. That subject, Sir, has been fully discussed under the grant regarding stamps. I have not much to add to the reply that I gave at that time. In replying then, I said that I shall refer the subject of court-fees to the enquiry that is to be held in the Secretariat regarding our taxation measures and the taxation system. I do hope that some relief could be afforded to the litigant public in that direction, and no pains will be spared on my part to look into the various directions in which a readjustment is possible. (Hear, hear.)

" As regards the question of the separation of the judicial and executive functions raised by my hon. Friend, it is not merely a hardy annual, but it is a time-honoured perennial, as it was put by somebody over there. Though I would not go the length of saying, ' give it a decent burial,' as my hon. Friend opposite has been suggesting to me, it is certainly a matter which will have to be considered when the new dispensation takes effect.

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"On the question of the jury system too, opinions have been varying, and I am glad, Sir, to learn that there is at least one district from which an appreciation comes from the Bar regarding the excellent work that is being done by the District Judge of the place. We are told, for instance, that this District Judge has been trying his best to put down the practice of touts and also trying to see that bribery is not allowed amongst the jurors. I do hope that his example will be followed in other districts, and every help will be given to the judiciary to put down this evil. But, it will be admitted, I take it, that though certain verdicts of jurors may not be appreciated by the judges, any serious charge of bribery among the jurors cannot be justified as being true. Occasionally cases might occur, as, we said the other day, there may be black sheep in every society. Sir, I was submitting that the charge of bribery amongst the jurors is not well-founded, though occasionally there might be cases.

"Then, the hon. Member referred to the juvenile offenders, and he has asked us why the law should not be changed, why sentences should be passed against these people and why even in ordinary cases an opportunity is not given to the accused or his advocate to say that the sentence should not be too heavy. Now, so far as juvenile offenders are concerned, the law, I think, is not so defective as my hon. Friend considers. We have the Children's Act. We have the Borstal Schools Act and we have the Criminal Procedure Code, in which there are sections for dealing with first offenders. I should think therefore that the machinery of law at any rate is quite adequate to deal with these offences. Nowadays no juvenile below fourteen years of age is being sent to jail, and even in the case of persons between 14 and 16, the advantage of these schools is being taken. And in the Bill that ha now been published and introduced into the Legislative Council, viz. the Borstal Schools Act Amending Bill, it is proposed to increase th age of the inmates of these Borstal schools up to the age of eve 23 years, so that it cannot be said that the law is defective in an way. When that Bill comes to be passed, I am sure it will giv satisfaction to the general public.

"As regards opportunity being given to the accused to make hi representation on the extent of the sentence to be imposed, I do think Sir, that opportunities of that kind are allowed wherever it was foun necessary. I have known many advocates pleading for a lighte sentence. But the misfortune comes in the other way. It is not s much the courts or the judges that are to be blamed in the matte But I have known advocates who would not venture to ask for a small sentence because it presupposes that sentence would have to be give People would be glad if the arguments of the advocates are confined saying that the offence has not been committed. It is the apprehensio of the vakils that any plea for the reduction of the sentence or for th award of a lighter sentence may amount to an admission of guilt the part of the accused. It is that that stands in the way of gettir smaller sentences or in the way of opportunities for pleading for small

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sentences. (Mr. C. R. Parthasarathi Ayyangar: Attitude of the judge.) The attitude of the judge is always fair as the hon. Member himself has told us. However, Sir, that is a small matter, and mostly it all depends.

" Then, Sir, the question is raised as regards imprisonment for debts. That is again a question which has been much debated. But just now I may inform the hon. Member and the others who are not aware of it that the matter is before the Government of India. The question is being considered, and probably some legislation might be undertaken by them.

" On the question of communal representation and of Indian Christians being represented on the services, it is only till recently that that community had the honour of being represented by an esteemed and distinguished Judge in the High Court itself, though he recently retired, and the appointment of an Indian Christian to the City Civil Court is only a very recent instance. However, Sir, I would say this, that the question of the claims of the various communities is not at all overlooked by the Government, and every attempt will be made to do justice to all communities without any distinction. (Hear, hear.)

" Well, Sir, the next question I would refer to is this, viz., my hon. Friend Mr. C. R. Parthasarathi Ayyangar's ethical observations. I am much in sympathy with him in various matters. Especially, there is nothing wrong in what he observed when he pleaded that the human element should be brought into play in the decisions of cases. To that extent I am entirely in agreement with him. But I do plead that our judges are not unconscious of it and that they have been trying their best, each according to his own merit, to do justice in a human, and even in a humane manner.

" My hon. Friend Mr. Nachiyappa Gounder referred to law's delays, and he has told us that one of his friends told him that there was a suit of 1928 or 1930 pending presumably in one of the lower courts. But if my hon. Friend could give me the number of the suit and the name of the court in which it is pending, I shall certainly be glad to make enquiries about it. It is quite possible that some of the parties, possibly the defendants, might have died, and these law's delays are caused mostly on that account. Take a case, for instance, where there are 90 or 100 defendants. It is only human and natural that some of them die and the advocates take three months or six months for bringing on their representatives; or it may be that the case has gone up to High Court on second appeal and been remanded to the lower court. Surely such cases cannot come under law's delays. I admit that law's delays are proverbial. (A voice: They must be avoided.) But it is not anybody's fault. Very often they are incidental to the procedure and the system we have. Certainly if there is a case pending in munsif's or sub-judge's court for the last eight years, as my hon. Friend would suggest, I am sure the High Court would have taken notice of it and the munsif or sub-judge that was responsible

4-1 p.m.

might have been called upon to explain. But as I have said it mus belong to the category of those cases to which I have referred.

"Then my hon. Friend refers to jurors and copyists and proces servers and the association being recognized. I must say that we hav taken notice of what was said last time and in every one of thes matters correspondence is going on between the High Court and th Government. In the case of jurors, the matter was referred to th High Court; the High Court consulted the District Judges and a recommendation was made to the effect that some increase may b allowed in their batta. But when we asked them to let us have som idea of the increase in expenditure a figure came up which was s great that under the existing financial conditions and resources it wa found impossible to accede to the request. Something will be done a soon as the financial position improved. As regards copyists, th position of the hon. Members who criticized, is somewhat anomalous There is my friend, Mr. Nachiyappa Gounder, asking for increase ir the pay of copyists, because it is a very useful service. There is my friend, Mr. Koti Reddi, who would like that the cost under stamp be reduced. At any rate some one the other day when we were discussing the question of stamps suggested that the cost of the copy stamps should be reduced from 3 annas to 2 annas. I then pointed out that the increase was due to the raising of the pay of the copyists Now, to reconcile both these things is rather difficult for me. You cannot go on increasing the salary of the copyists but at the same time reducing the cost of the copystamps. Then the difference will be so large that we may have to find other sources of revenue to make it up.

"Then, Sir, my friend, Mr. Nachiyappa Gounder, referred to the fact of buildings being constructed for Government officers, and he is sorry that the post-mortem shed in Yedapady has not yet been built It may interest the hon. Member to know that here again Government have not been inactive. We are acquiring land for this purpose (A voice: What about accommodation for jurors?) As regards that, here again it is a question of finance. In some places there are sheds and rooms available for the public and in some places I know they do not exist. But these things can be taken up only one after another. Salem's claims were very strongly represented by its able advocates and representatives and Government will see, wherever it is very urgent and to the extent to which funds are available, that something is being done. Now, Sir, I must go to the more serious matter referred to by my friend Mr. Bhatt. I mean the alleged incident in the sub-court at Mangalore. My hon. Friend could not tell us what exactly the facts were. Very often he started with an 'if,' a very big 'if' sometimes—if that is so it must be so and so on. He also told us that he was making statements on suspicions, very well founded and suspicion may be taken as fact. I cannot act on mere suspicion. (Mr. U. C. S. Bhatt: 'You give the facts.') The hon. Member asks me to give the facts. I have already answered in the Council I have no

facts, officially there is nothing about it. There are no official papers with me, and the case has not been reported to the Government by anybody. After all, it may turn out to be a case in which the District Judge was making inspection of the court. (Mr. U. C. S. Bhatt: It was more than fifteen days since I gave notice of the cut motion.) It is not a matter in which Government could ordinarily interfere, unless there are substantial facts before them. It is a matter entirely within the discretion of the District Judge and of the High Court. But since the hon. Member is very insistent, all I can promise him is that I will forward the proceedings of this House to the High Court. I cannot say more than that.

"Then, Mr. Rameswara Rao suggested that certain clerks who entered service about twenty years ago in the Judicial department were not allowed to draw certain increments. I suppose it is in pursuance of certain order the Government passed under certain rules. Otherwise, I cannot see why they should not have been allowed. I know those who were made permanent on a certain date were allowed. (Mr. G. Rameswara Rao: Not in Judicial department.) I must confess I am not aware of this and I shall be glad to have this question examined. As regards jurors, my friend himself admits that some people apply to be made jurors and that some care should be taken in selecting them. Of course, orders have been issued to the authorities concerned, the District Judges and the District Magistrates, and certainly they cannot do anything more than what they have been doing, if no objections are forthcoming. Is it not, I ask in my turn, the duty of the public the leaders and followers when they are prepared to charge that certain jurors are not in the class from which they are to be drawn, to object to such persons being put on the list? What is the good of complaining to the Government? Is public spirit confined only to this Legislative Council? Why should they not themselves go to the court on the day of appointment and say that such and such persons are undesirable persons, and must not be put on the list? The rules are there, and opportunities are given to raise objections.

"The next point which my hon. Friend has raised is, why should not the bonds be taken from a witness who once appeared before the court to appear at the next hearing and why should parties be compelled to take out summons again, for not only has batta to be paid twice but even notice will have to be served twice? That is no doubt a point to be considered, but may I point out to the hon. Member that sometimes when a case is posted to the 1st July and a bond is taken from the witness that is present on the 5th May, there are many cases I have known, in which vakils come forward and say that they have got another case on the 1st July and that it may be adjourned to the 4th or 5th? In such cases is the witness to come to the court on the 1st July and then on the 5th again? There are inconveniences of that kind also to be taken into account. You cannot always take the judge to task. He might turn round and say 'How am I to know what might

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happen in the interval of two months: how can I take a bond from the witness to be present on such and such a date?' "

Mr. G. Rameswara Rao:—" I fear my hon. Friend the Law Member did not catch me properly. What I said was, if it is posted to the 1st July we are compelled to pay batta for the 1st July whereas the witness might be bound over to appear on the 1st July."

* The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu:—" I have caught the hon. Member almost by the neck. I am exactly referring to the case to which my hon. Friend has been referring. Let us assume the case is posted to the 5th May. My hon. Friend wants that a bond should be taken from the witness to present himself on the 1st July. Then in the interval, I have known hundreds of cases in which vakils appear before the court and say that the 1st July does not suit them and the case may be posted to 1st August or 15th August. In such cases under the bond the witness will be bound to be present on the 1st July and also on the other dates fixed. (Mr. M. G. Patnaik Mahasayo: 'The witness may not remember the date at all.') However, that is a matter which must be left to the discretion of the courts. They have got the power to take these bonds and I know many cases in which judges too insist on taking bonds. But where long adjournments are sought and granted, difficulties arise, and it is a matter in which we ought not to interfere with the discretion of the judges.

" I have only one more point to reply to. My hon. Friend suggested that a new system of appointment to the district munsif's posts has come into vogue and what is worse according to him, was that for every application the candidate has to pay afresh. I admit it is so. My hon. Friend went still further and said that no one district is given representation in two successive years. That is known to be the acknowledged rule, a rule known to all persons. (A voice: 'No written rule.') Well, unwritten rule. Is it not commonsense on the part of these candidates not to apply at all for that? (A voice: 'Hope.') If they choose to apply on the offchance of getting into the place, I must say, Sir, it is their own fault. The other point raised by Mr. Daniel Thomas is that in the last selection there were about 20 or 25 candidates selected, but there was no Indian Christion on the list. As the hon. Member is aware the matter is entirely in the discretion of the High Court. However, I shall be glad to intimate to the High Court the points raised by my hon. Friend Mr. Thomas. I have now done except in regard to the Arms Act, which is the only point remaining, but with which I have not much concern for I don't administer that Act, Sir."

Mr. Daniel Thomas:—" In view of the statement made by the Hon. the Law Member I wish to withdraw the motion."

The cut motion was by leave withdrawn.

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

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DEMAND XIII—JAILS—RESERVED.

* The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu :—" Mr. President, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I beg to move— 4-5 p.m.

'*that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 19,63,200 under Demand XIII—Jails—Reserved*'."

* Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder :—" Mr. President, I move—

'*that the allotment of Rs. 34,700 for Jails—Superintendence—Pay and allowances of Officers and Establishments be reduced by Rs. 100*'.

" My object in moving this cut motion is to make a few observations with regard to the administration of prisons. Sir, what often happens in the case of persons coming out of jails is that they revert back to crime and again go to prison. Going through the proceedings of many of the criminal courts one finds that individuals are convicted often in many cases for times more than one and in some cases for the 10th, or even 15th time. This is due, I think, to the lack of facilities in prisons for reforming the character of the prisoners. My point is that our jails must be made more or less regular schools in which the prisoners may learn better habits and prove themselves better citizens when they come out at the end of their term of imprisonment. The present arrangements are not in any way helpful for that purpose. The inmates of our jails are often made to work in the fields till the evening and then brought back, fed and locked up in the cells for the night. What I suggest is that after extracting some work from them they may be provided with some education and taught some handicrafts. I suggest that the Government might start night schools in all the prisons and give education to the prisoners lodged there. If this is done it may be possible to wean them from their bad ways and enable them to carry on their after life as honest citizens. I learn that in the case of long-term prisoners alone carpentry and weaving are taught. (The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu: 'And printing.') It should be possible to teach these subjects to other prisoners as well. If this is done and if other useful handicrafts such as tailoring, smithy, etc., are also taught to the prisoners, it would go a long way towards making them better citizens after their release.

" Then, Sir, I wish to say something about the glaring inconveniences the prisoners are put to. No doubt the prisoners are provided with food, but the complaint by every one coming out of the prison, is that that food is not suitable or proper. It has been a standing complaint that buttermilk is not provided as one of the articles of food. I believe the Hon. the Law Member will not deny if I say that it is one of the most necessary items of food. I have been interested in this question ever since I came into this Council, but all in vain so far. Law Members have gone and Law Members have come, but nothing has been done in this direction. We were once told that this

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agitation was only with regard to the political prisoners and that this question has lost its importance when there were no such prisoners. I may tell him that it is not so. Whether one is a political prisoner or an ordinary prisoner, may I ask the Government whether it is not the duty of the State to provide at least this ordinary necessity? Sir, especially in our part of the Presidency every one is accustomed to take buttermilk. When that is the case, may I ask the Hon. Member whether he is justified in denying this ordinary necessity to the prisoners simply because they are in jails? I am sure there will be no insurmountable difficulty in the way of the Government providing this necessary item of food to these unfortunate persons in jails. After all, whatever party may come into power in the near future, I am certain that this question will be solved once for all, and, that being the case, may I not ask the Hon. the Law Member to do it during his regime of office and take the credit, pride and earn the gratitude of these unfortunate souls for himself?

"Then, Sir, I pass on to the question of the treatment given to the prisoners. I have been putting oftentimes interpellations with regard to the prisoner Mukundalal Sirkar who, I believe, is still in the Salem jail. It has repeatedly been pointed out that there is a demand for shifting him to any of the Bengal jails. I have heard a good deal of complaint from his friends who had occasion to interview him that he is not keeping good health and feeling himself well, and that he being a Bengali the food supplied in these jails does not suit him and that it will be better if he is sent to any one of the Bengal jails. I do not see any difficulty in the way of the Government granting this request for a transfer to his own province. After all, if he is transferred he will be still in custody and there is no danger or any such thing. It is not a question of release that is asked for. I do not see why the Government cannot do this. I understand, Sir, that some association in Calcutta of which he was the president have also applied to the Government for his transfer. I do not know what orders have been passed on this matter. I would suggest that since there is nothing lost by such an action taken by the Government, the Hon. the Law Member may be pleased to see that this prisoner's case for transfer to any of the Bengal jails is viewed favourably. I understand, Sir, that he is not supplied with amenities such as a mosquito curtain, an easy chair and some books and newspapers. He being a B class prisoner, I believe the rules do not fetter the discretion of the Hon. Member granting him these facilities. I request the Hon. the Law Member to consider these matters favourably. (The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu: 'I think he is supplied with them.') I am told that only a few books are supplied. The Hon. Member may kindly look to the supply of the rest of his needs which can legitimately be allowed to him taking his past status and position into consideration.

"Then, Sir, I would insist on the popularization of the jail-made articles. If this is done I think it will be a source of income to prison departments. I have already suggested that some handicrafts

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might be allowed to be taught in jails and the convicts trained to better methods of living. If this is done, the Government would be getting a number of articles made in jails for their requirements and in addition to this they will be bringing in some money to the State, and there will also be the advantage of training given to the convicts. I request the Government to pay some attention to this aspect of the matter. There is also another principle involved in this and that is *the convicts acquire the power and capacity of earning* better wages when compared with the return to be got from the hard labour to which these convicts are put to. So this would go to increase the jail revenues and at the same time making the lot of prisoners better. I request the Hon. the Law Member to bear in mind all these as well as other points which I have specifically stated in my cut motions, but which I could not deal with for want of time and put them into action early."

* Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—" Mr. President, Sir, a perusal of the latest report of the Jail Administration, namely, the report for 1934, shows that there has been an increase in the number of juveniles committed to prison. This shows that the Children Act and the Borstal Schools Act have not been utilized to the extent they were intended to be. I need hardly say how undesirable it is to commit to prison young persons who could be dealt with in other ways. Penologists are all agreed that prevention should be the watchword of the prison system, that young people are more amenable to reformatory influences and that the best way to reduce and to prevent crime is to strike at the source of crime by catching young criminals and by trying to reform them before their criminal propensities crystallize into fixed habits."

" It is also regrettable to note that there has been an increase in 4-
the year under report, viz., the year 1934 in the number of men P
sentenced to short terms of imprisonment. Repeatedly, year after year, it has been pointed out that short sentences are not only futile but positively harmful. In spite of this, it is really very regrettable that instead of there being a fall in short-term imprisonment, there has been an increase. The only remedy of course is the Probation Act. I would like to know from the Hon. the Law Member when this Act is *going to be introduced in this Council*. Sir, many of the authorities on Prison Reform have said that prison should be the last resort and not the first resort. They say that the most hopeful of Prison Reforms is to keep convicts out of prison as far as possible. It is for this purpose that in countries like England they have enacted a number of legislative measures such as the Children Act, the Borstal Schools Act, the Prevention of Crimes Act, the Mental Deficiency Act and the *Probation Act*. Even *for confirmed criminals prolonged imprisonment* is not a suitable remedy. A long-term of imprisonment far from curing the criminal tendencies of the convict often causes progressive deterioration of mind and character. It habituates him to a life of confinement and like a caged animal he becomes unfit for the free life outside if he remains in jail for a long time. It is for this reason that

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Paterson in his report on the prevention of crimes in Burma has recommended that no man should be kept in prison for more than two years and that habitual offenders should be sent after this time to some form of colony where they can have more natural surroundings than they get by their being retained in jails. A substantial portion of our jail population consists of habitual offenders. In the year under report we had among our prisoners 16 per cent habitual criminals. It is wrong to let these people loose on society, allow them to relapse into crime and then shut them up again in prison. A long and mournful roll of these incorrigibles haunts our prisons again and again. They are a constant source of nuisance to the police and also a source of nuisance to their neighbours. In England it is several years since they had recourse to a system of preventive detention for such persons. Whenever they find that a man is a habitual criminal, they send him, after serving his period of sentence in prison, to Camp Hill in the Isle of Wight where there is a special form of custody known as preventive detention. This form of custody is to protect society from such confirmed criminals. They are made to earn their livelihood by work and they live in more natural surroundings. There is less rigorous discipline, but at the same time disciplinary and reformatory influences are brought to bear on them and when they are considered fit for release they are given freedom. The Inspector-General of Prisons has been often pressing for legislation for this purpose in this Province, but nothing has been done so far.

" Sir, the success of prison treatment is to be judged by the extent to which prisoners have been reformed in character and they are able to live as law-abiding citizens after they are released. To-day the policy of severity and the policy of repression which were meant to grind rogues honest have been substituted by a more humane policy, by a system of constructive discipline. In all modern prisons, for instance, a prisoner spends some idle hours after he is locked up in the evening and before he goes to sleep. If he is alone in a cell, he broods in silence over his real or fancied grievances If he is in associated barracks, he indulges in profitless gossip with his fellow convicts and hatches plots for mischief in jails or for concerted criminal action outside. In England there are many voluntary workers who go as visitors to prisons and talk to them during these hours on various interesting topics and thus engage their time in useful directions. Unfortunately we have not here sufficient number of voluntary workers going to prison and I am sorry to note from the report that the number of visitors who go to jails and give moral and religious lectures has become much less in the course of the year under report on account of stopping conveyance allowance to them. The Inspector-General of Prisons says that the restoration of this allowance is urgently necessary. I wish to know what the Government are going to do in this matter."

The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu:—" What allowance? "

Mr. A. B. Shetty:—" Conveyance allowance.

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" Sir, we should also provide for the convicts facilities to read during leisure hours. We must have better libraries and better lights in prisons. All Central Jails should be lighted by electricity. In other jails also we must provide good lights.

" I shall next deal with the selection and training of the jail staff. After all is said and done, the good work done in prisons depends upon having a proper staff. We must have for our jailors and deputy jailors' posts men with good education and character and men possessing the right sort of temperament to deal with criminals. Even warders must be men who can command respect from the prisoners and are above corruption. The jail staff's supreme duty is not merely to see that the prison rules are obeyed and that the allotted task is done but also to see that they try to save the soul of the prisoner and send him out reformed in character and to enable him to re-establish himself in normal life as a good citizen. Now, here we have no training given to our jailors and deputy jailors. In Burma, the United Provinces and the Punjab they have training schools. We too must have a training school attached to some Central Jail.

" Next, Sir, comes the question of ' after-care.' The ' after-care ' of prisoners is a most important factor in reducing and preventing crime. No doubt the Central Discharged Prisoners' Aid Society in Madras and its branches in all the districts are working for this purpose. But the work which this society has done so far touches only the fringe of the problem. This after-care work should not depend solely upon voluntary work and help. It is the duty of the Government to give sufficient aid to this society. In England, I understand that 70 per cent of the funds spent by the Central Discharged Prisoners' Aid Society is given by the State, but here we find in the budget that only a very small sum is given as contribution to this society. It is economy at the wrong end. When we are spending such a large amount for jail administration, it is not at all right that such a paltry amount should be given for such an important work. In England they give aid not only to the discharged prisoners, but they give aid to the starving family, the wife and children of the suffering convict while he is undergoing his term of imprisonment.

" I find in the report much is said about the physical health of the convicts and the attempts made for the sanitary improvements of jails. No doubt the standard of health among the prisoners is high when compared with that of the neighbouring population of a similar class. Medical administration in this respect is satisfactory. But, Sir, in England the prison doctor is concerned more with examining the mental state of the convicts than in attending to their physical health only. There is a close and even undiscovered association between crime and mental deficiency. Many petty acts of repeated lawlessness are done by people who are mentally defective. These are people who are not fit for penal discipline and for whom medical care is more necessary than imprisonment in jails. We have no doubt a special jail for mental

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defectives at Cuddalore, but I believe it is only people affected with grave mental disorders that are sent to this jail. The prison Medical Officers in England have won reputation for being experts in the diagnosis of mental diseases. Unfortunately the prison doctors here in this Province have not been given or they do not possess proper training in diagnosing difficult and doubtful cases of mental deficiency. We are told that in England by means of the Mental Deficiency Act and the measures taken under it, they have been able to reduce the jail population to the extent of 200 daily. I would draw the attention of the Hon. the Law Member to this important question of finding out how many prisoners of this sort there are in our jails for whom prison treatment is unsuitable and unnecessary and for whom institutional treatment will be much more useful. If we introduce a Mental Deficiency Act in this Province, it will no doubt be a very important measure and will be a great step in the rational and scientific treatment of this class of unfortunate criminals who are not responsible for the offences they commit.

"With these words, I support the motion moved by my hon. Friend, Mr. Nachiyappa Gounder."

The House then adjourned to meet again at 11 a.m. the next day.

IV.—PAPER LAID ON THE TABLE OF THE HOUSE.

[a] *G.O. No.* 174, *Development, dated* 6*th February* 1936, *recording the audit report of the Cinchona department for the year ended* 31*st March* 1935.

D. K. V. RAGHAVA VARMA,
Acting Secretary to the Legislative Council.

[a] Printed as Appendix II on pages 610–653 infra.

Appendix I

[Vide answer to question No. 982 asked by Sir William Wright at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 19th March 1936, page 544 supra].

Statement showing the number of pupils trained at the Kerala Soap Institute, Calicut.

Year.	Number of pupils trained.	Number of pupils now engaged in soap manufacture and allied industries.	Remarks.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
1927–28	9	7	..
1928–29	12	7	1 died.
1929–30	5	2	..
1930–31	11	10	1 died.
1931–32	14	6	..
1932–33	16	7	1 died.
1933–34	8	5	..
1934–35	13	10	..
Total ..	88	54	

The three ex-students who died were working in soap factories but these are not included in column No. 3. No information is available about the occupation of the other ex-students.

Thirteen students are undergoing training this year (1935–36).

APPENDIX II.

Vide item IV at page 608 supra.

(G.O. No. 174, Development, dated 6th February 1936.)

READ—the following papers :—

I

Letter from the Accountant-General (O.A.D. section), to the Secretary to Government, Development Department, dated Madras, the 14/15th October 1935, No. O.A. 33 (*f*) 12/35-36-2014.

I have the honour to forward herewith the audit report and accounts of the Cinchona department for the year ended 31st March 1935.

2. Particular attention is invited to paragraphs 3, 7, 10 (*b*), 11 (ii), 11 (viii), 11 (ix), 11 (x) (*a*) and (*c*) and 11 (xi) of the report.

3. Copies of the audit report and of the accounts have been sent to the Deputy Director of Agriculture (Cinchona), Ootacamund, with the request that his remarks thereon may be sent to Government direct.

4. Copies of the audit report and of the accounts have also been sent to the Secretary to the Government of Madras, Finance Department.

ENCLOSURE.

Audit report on the accounts of the Cinchona department, Madras, for the year ended 31st March 1935.

The following accounts and schedules relating to the year duly audited are attached hereto :—

(i) Balance sheet as at 31st March 1935.
(ii) Subsidiary balance sheet of the Anamalais Plantation Division as at 31st March 1935.
(iii) Production account.

(iv) Cost account.

(v) Trading account.

(vi) Pice packets and treatments trading account.

(vii) Profit and loss account.

(viii) Plantation account, Naduvattam, Hooker, Moyar and Wood Estates.

(ix) Plantation account, Dodabetta.

(x) Plantation account, Anamalais.

(xi) Schedule (1)—Receipts, disposals and balances of quinine products.

(xii) Schedule (2)—Details of buildings.

(xiii) Schedule (3)—Details of electric installation.

(xiv) Schedule (4)—Details of plant and machinery including motor lorry.

(xv) Schedule (5)—Details of office furniture.

(xvi) Schedule (6)—Details of depreciation charges.

(xvii) Schedule (7)—Details of interest on capital.

(xviii) Schedule (8)—Details of reconciliation of Superintendent, Penitentiary, current account.

(xix) Schedule (9)—Madras Government capital account as on 31st March 1935.

(xx) Schedule (10)—Depreciation reserve account as on 31st March 1935.

2. *Scope of audit.*—With effect from 1st April 1934, the concern has been brought under the gross budgeting system. The cash accounts for the month of March 1935 were test-audited. All the accounts of the concern maintained in the commercial form and other relevant records were audited.

Owing to the change in the system of payment of commission to the Madras Penitentiary for the distribution of quinine with effect from 1st April 1934—vide G.Os. No. 671, Development, dated 21st May 1934, and Ms. No. 391, Development, dated 13th March 1935, the accounts maintained at the Penitentiary relating to the expenditure connected with the sale of quinine were also test-audited at Madras.

3. *Financial results of the working of the year.*—The working of the department for the year resulted in a net profit of Rs. 43,648 as against Rs. 29,546 in the previous year. The

increase in the net profit by Rs. 14,102 was due to the reduced costs of production and to an increase in the total sales during the year under report as compared with the preceding year. This net profit (Rs. 43,648) excludes a sum of Rs. 60,000 appropriated by the Deputy Director of Agriculture (Cinchona) from the gross profit of Rs. 1,93,265 as a reserve provision against plantations asset proving to be overvalued in the balance sheet.

4. *Production account and cost sheet.*—(*a*) In the table below, the quantity of quinine sulphate manufactured and extraction costs are given for the three years ending 31st March 1935:—

	1934-35.	1933-34.	1932-33.
	RS.	RS.	RS.
Total net expenditure apportioned to the manufacture—*vide* cost sheet exclusive of cost of bark	57,288	69,175	67,100
	LB.	LB.	LB.
Total quantity manufactured for the Government of Madras	23,226	22,716	23,153
	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.
Cost of extraction per lb.	2 7 5·6	3 0 8·7	2 14 4·4

(*b*) The total factory cost of quinine sulphate including the cost of bark used up is given in the following table:—

	1934-35.		1933-34.		1932-33.	
		LB.		LB.		LB.
Quantity produced		23,226		22,716		23,153
	RS.		RS.		RS.	
Value of bark used	2,11,698		2,16,197		2,31,146	
		RS. A. P.		RS. A. P.		RS. A. P.
Rate per lb.		9 1 10		9 8 3·3		9 15 8·8
Extraction cost..	57,288	2 7 5·6	69,175	3 0 8·7	67,100	2 14 4·4
Rate per pound						
	2,68,986	11 9 3·6	2,85,372	12 9 0	2,98,246	12 14 1·2

(c) The following table shows the quantities and the factory prodnction costs of the various druge manufactured during the year under review as compared with those of the preceding two years:—

	1934-35.				1933-34.				1932-33.			
	Quantity.	Rate.			Quantity.	Rate.			Quantity.	Rate.		
	LB.	RS.	A.	P.	LB.	RS.	A.	P.	LB.	RS.	A.	P.
Quinine sulphate	17,414	11	9	3·6	18,796½	12	9	0	21,502	12	14	1·2
Quinine sulphate tablets ..	4,900¼	10	3	6·6	2,202½	11	3	2	..		..	
Quinine hydrochloride	700	16	7	7·5	1,348½	17	9	4·9	840	17	15	0·9
Quinine bihydrochloride	875½	18	0	7	588	18	6	6·7	1,442	18	13	0·5
Cinchona febrifuge	9,045	4	4	3·2	11,832	4	1	11·7	10,114	4	6	1·2
Cinchona febrifuge tablets ..	645	4	0	9·6	1,309	3	14	10·5	880	4	0	10·4
Totaquina	3,339	7	8	2·5	2,124	8	3	9·2	3,620	9	0	2·2
Totaquina tablets	1,613½	6	14	3·6	13·6	7	7	6·3	..		..	

It will be seen from the tables given above that there has been a decrease on the whole both in the factory cost and in the extraction cost of quinine sulphate as compared with the previous year. The decrease was due to the good quality of bark used in the manufacture and also due to the reduction in the total expenditure debited to Production Account, especially under ' Salaries—Chemist ' and ' Contingencies.'

The slight increase of As. 2-3 in the cost of cinchona febrifuge as compared with the previous year was explained to be due to the consumption of larger quantity of bark during the year than in the previous year.

The increase in the cost of production of cinchona febrifuge resulted in an increase in the production cost of cinchona febrifuge tablets also.

5. *Trading account.*—A comparison of the quantities sold during the year with those of the preceding two years is made in the table given below:—

	1934–35.		1933–34.		1932–33.	
	LB.	OZ.	LB.	OZ.	LB.	OZ.
Quinine sulphate	19,476	0	16,794	8	16,248	0
,, sulphate tablets	2,275	12	1,803	0	417	8
,, bisulphate	160	0	66	0	66	0
,, bisulphate tablets	1	8	84	0	40	0
,, hydrochloride	438	8	359	0	476	8
,, bihydrochloride	992	0	1,063	0	1,043	0
Cinchona febrifuge	7,369	8	7,153	0	8,192	0
,, febrifuge tablets	785	0	768	0	571	0
Cinchona bark	880	0	789	0	1,082	0
Totaquina	4,381	0	1,841	8	10	0
,, tablets	527	8	10	0	..	

The total bulk sales during the year amounted to Rs. 5,78,365 as against Rs. 4,77,118 in the previous year and this increased turnover was mainly due to the increased sales under 'quinine sulphate' and 'totaquina.'

The percentages of gross and net profits to turnover for the triennium ending 31st March 1935 are given below:—

	Turnover.	Gross profit.	Percentage.	Net profit.	
				Amount.	Percentage.
	RS.	RS.		RS.	
1934–35	5,78,365	1,93,265	33·4	43,648	7·6
1933–34	4,77,118	1,21,690	25·5	29,546	6·2
1932–33	4,25,450	1,17,955	27·7	20,857	4·9

The improvement in the percentage of gross profit on the turnover during the year under review as compared with that of the previous year was mainly due to the decrease in the costs of production and also to there being no trading in the Government of India quinine stock during the year.

6. *Pice-packets and treatments trading account.*—In accordance with the orders of Government contained in paragraph 2 of G.O. Ms. No. 391, Development, dated 13th March 1935, a combined trading account for pice packets and treatments has been prepared during

the year under review. The loss due to the reduction of the sale price and debitable to the Public Health Department for the year 1934–35 amounted to Rs. 3,967–15–0. The decrease in the amount debitable to the Public Health Department as compared with the amount of the previous year was due to the revised method of calculation approved in G.O. No. 671, Development, dated 21st May 1934.

7. *Profit and loss account.*—The increase under the head " Salary of Deputy Director " was due to the return from leave of the permanent Deputy Director during the year under review. The decrease in the item ' Share of interest on Capital ' was chiefly due to the reduction of the rate of interest during the year by 0·17 per cent.

A sum of Rs. 60,000 has been reserved as a ' capital reserve ' by the Deputy Director of Agriculture (Cinchona) in this account for plantations—vide paragraph 3 above—and the net profit carried to balance-sheet is Rs. 43,648–4–7.

8. *Plantation account—Naduvattam plantation.*—This account shows a surplus of Rs. 1,838 during the year under review as against Rs. 5,690 during 1933–34. This reduction in the surplus was explained to be due to the decrease in the quantity of bark harvested during the year, the value of acreage harvested during the year being Rs. 2,162 against Rs. 29,243 during 1933–34. Credit has also been taken in this account for a sum of Rs. 22,233 representing the value of bark obtained from blocks in development.

At present the bark value of the plantations is valued by the respective Superintendents in charge of the plantations and approved by the Deputy Director of Agriculture (Cinchona). It is however noticed that the estimated bark value of the plantations at Naduvattam is Rs. 3,79,416 as against the book value of Rs. 3,95,729. The difference of Rs. 16,313 represents the expenditure incurred on 125 acres planted during the years 1933–34 and 1934–35. The bark contents of the young plants cannot be estimated at present as they are in development.

9. *Dodabetta plantations.*—This account shows a surplus of Rs. 840 against a deficiency of Rs. 1,450 in the previous year. This was explained to be due to the better quality of the bark harvested during the year and also to the reduction in the expenditure relating to the plantations by about Rs. 1,100.

10. *Anamalais plantations.*—(*a*) In G.O. No. 261, Development, dated 17th February 1925, Government sanctioned the Anamalais Scheme for a period of ten years. Later on the period was extended to 12 years—vide G.O. No. 909, Development, dated 6th July 1932, and this is still in development.

In accordance with the orders contained in G.O. Ms. No. 1227, Development, dated 14th September 1932, simple interest has been calculated on the mean of the works expenditure on 1st April 1934 and 31st March 1935. During the year under review there has been a decrease in the expenditure under " Planting operations," " Nurseries " and " Other expenditure " while there was a slight increase under ' overheads '.

The quantity of bark taken into account was 18,078 lb. as against 149,011 lb. in the previous year. The reason for the lesser quantity of bark harvested during 1934–35 as compared with the previous year was due to the greater number of dead and dying trees on account of excess rain in 1933–34 which necessitated the removal.

(b) The total quantity of bark harvested during the year under review was 34,663 lb. and the quantity acknowledged by the factory was 28,046 lb. and the balance was stated to be in transit. Out of 28,046 lb. acknowledged by the factory 18,078 lb. only were taken into account, by the Deputy Director (Cinchona), in the accounts of the year under review and the balance is proposed to be adjusted in the accounts of the year 1935–36.

The Deputy Director explained the lesser quantity of bark taken into account as follows:—

> At the time of sending the revised Budget Estimate for 1934–35, the value of bark to the extent of 6,000 lb. was not available. Only the bark which corresponded to the revised estimate sent on 15th February 1935 was analysed and taken into accouut to avoid upsetting his budget figure. The Deputy Director of Agriculture, however, stated that steps would be taken in future to have the quantities adjusted as far as possible in the accounts of the same year.

11. *General balance sheet*—(i) *Capital—Government of Madras, Rs.* 23,46,539–10–10.—Details of this account will be found in schedule (9) attached to this report.

(ii) *Indirect charges—Interest on capital Rs.* 1,14,413.—Details and the method of calculation will be found in Schedules (7) 'A' and 'B-1.' In accordance with the orders contained in paragraph 4 of G.O. No. 632, dated 1st May 1931, on paragraph 21 (*a*) of the Audit Report of the Cinchona department for the year 1929–30, the indirect charges of the year have been excluded for purpose of calculation of interest for adjustment in the Government accounts.

If, however, interest is calculated taking into account the indirect charges of the year, vide details in Schedule (7) B-2 the net profit will be reduced by Rs. 387. As the concern has been brought, with effect from 1st April 1934, to the ordinary budgeting system, orders of Government are requested as to the method of calculating interest. The method in Schedule (7) B-2 seems to be more appropriate.

(iii) *Audit fee Rs.* 1,740.—The amount was reduced from Rs. 2,580 in 1933–34 to Rs. 1,740 in 1934–35—vide G.O. Ms. No. 213, Development, dated 9th February 1935.

(iv) *Capital reserve account Rs.* 69,699–12–0.—The details of this amount are:—

	RS.	A.	P.
Naduvattam plantation	1,837	15	3
Dodabetta plantation	840	6	3
Capital reserve (general) as per balance sheet of 1933–34 ...	7,021	6	6
Capital reserve provided for during 1934–35	60,000	0	0
Total ...	69,699	12	0

(v) *Superintendent, Penitentiary, Rs.* 18,177–9–2.—This sum represents the net amount due to the Jail department for expenses incurred by that department on packing and distribution of quinine plus a profit of 20 per cent of the expenses—vide G.O. No. 671, Development, dated 21st May 1934.

(vi) *Tools, stores, packing materials, etc.*—The stock of stores, packing materials, etc., have been taken to the balance sheet at cost. The inventories were verified by the officers noted below and no variations were noticed:—

Dodabetta.—Verified by the Deputy Director of Agriculture, Cinchona.
Anamalais.—Verified by the Superintendent, Anamalais.
Naduvattam.—Verified by the Manufacturing Chemist.
Factory, Naduvattam.—Verified by the Superintendent, Naduvattam Plantations.
Director's office.—Verified by the Head Overseer, Dodabetta.
Penitentiary.—Verified by the Superintendent, Penitentiary, Madras.

(vii) *Bark in hand at cost Rs.* 2,15,258–5–2.—The bark in the factory godown was checked by the Superintendent, Naduvattam plantations, by test weighment of the bags.

(viii) *Purchase of material in excess of requirements*—

Caustic soda—

	LB.	RS.
Balance on 1st April 1935	129,556	18,556
Balance on 1st April 1934	109,730	16,479
Issues during 1934–35	92,544	12,380
Receipts during 1934–35	112,370	14,457

The issues during the years 1933–34 and 1934–35 were 89,518 lb. (valued at Rs. 14,361) and of 92,544 lb. (valued at Rs. 12,380) and were used up in the manufacture of quinine sulphate to the extent of 22,716 lb. (1933–34) and 23,226 lb. (1934–35) respectively. The stock in hand on 1st April 1935 was nearly $1\frac{1}{3}$ years' consumption. As the Government have restricted the production of quinine to 18,500 lb. which requires approximately 75,000 lb. of caustic soda based on the quantities used up in 1933–34 and 1934–35 and as the present stock (92,540 lb. valued at Rs. 13,524 on the 31st July 1935) itself is in excess of this limit, the additional purchase of 50 tons or 112,000 lb. during 1935–36 (vide packing account No. 93, dated 11th July 1935, SS. " Clan Morrison ") requires justification.

(ix) *Bengal bark.*—As per G.O. Ms. No. 336, Development, dated 12th March 1934, the total quantity of bark received in 1934–35 from the Bengal Cinchona department was 227,027 lb. against the invoiced quantity of 230,000 lb. and the amount credited to the Bengal Government provisionally was Rs. 1,00,078–11–5 pending the settlement of the question of the quinine contents in the bark.

As there has been some difference in the quinine contents in the bark as analysed by the Madras Cinchona Chemist and the Bengal Chemist, the Deputy Director has proposed to send the Madras sample to Bengal for analysis as required by the Government Order referred to above. The result of the analysis and the final settlement of the cost of bark are awaited.

(x) *Stock of manufactured products—Rs.* 6,25,660–7–0.—(*a*) The stock held at the Deputy Director's office was verified by the Head Overseer, Dodabetta, and those in the jail by the Superintendent, Penitentiary, and found correct.

The key of the store room of the finished quinine product (valued at Rs. 5,14,816 on 31st March 1935) held at the Deputy Director's office is stated to be in the hands of a clerk.

As the amount involved is considerable, it is desirable to fix a money limit or quantity limit up to which the clerk can be authorized to handle, the balance of stock being kept in the personal custody of the Deputy Director of Agriculture, Cinchona, or a responsible subordinate.

(b) A statement is given below for the years 1931–32 to 1934–35 showing the production, sales and the balance of quinine sulphate and cinchona fabrifuge—

Quinine Sulphate.

Year.	Production.	Sales.	Balance.
	LB.	LB.	LB.
1931–32	13,600	18,433	16,619
1932–33	21,502	16,248	21,769
1933–34	18,797	16,795	28,102
1934–35	17,414	19,476	26,379

Cinchona Febrifuge.

Year.	Production.	Sales.	Balance.
1931–32	9,084	6,769	36,859
1932–33	10,114	8,192	39,059
1933–34	11,832	7,153	43,737
1934–35	9,045	7,369	44,919

It will be seen from the statement given above that the stock of quinine sulphate continues to be in excess of average sales. It is understood that the Deputy Director of Agriculture, Cinchona, has taken steps to restrict further manufacture of this quinine—with reference to Government Development Memorandum No. 1334-I/34-9, dated 30th November 1934, restricting the stock of quinine to one year's normal supply.

(c) *Cinchona febrifuge.*—The balance of this stock also is steadily increasing. *It is* understood that the Deputy Director of Agriculture, Cinchona, is taking steps to reduce this stock, by converting this product into Totaquina, the sale of which has considerably increased

during the year under report. The Deputy Director, it is understood, has also suggested to the Director of Public Health that the latter should utilize part of his grant for free distribution of quinine by using cinchona febrifuge which is relatively cheaper. During the year under review negotiations were carried on with the Government of Bengal for the sale of 10,000 lb. of this product to supplement the shortage in Calcutta, but no sale was, however, concluded as the Government of Bengal intimated that they would curtail supplies to public and would thus manage to meet their official indents without the purchase from this Province.

(xi) *Motor lorry and electric installation in the Cinchona villa.*—The motor lorry was purchased in 1928–29 at a cost of Rs. 4,727 and stands in the books at a nominal value of Re. 1. The electric installation completed in 1925 at a cost of Rs. 991 has completely depreciated. The Deputy Director of Agriculture has shown this in his accounts at a nominal value of Re. 1. As these items are in working condition and actually represent more than the book value they may be revalued and the difference brought to account.

12. Subject to the foregoing remarks, I certify that I have obtained all the information and explanations I have required and that the balance sheet signed by me as relative hereto, in my opinion, exhibits a true and correct view of the state of affairs of the Cinchona Department, Madras, according to the best of my information and explanations given to me and as shown by the books of the concern.

S. SRINIVASAN,
Examiner, Outside Audit Department.

OFFICE OF THE ACCOUNTANT-GENERAL, MADRAS,
10th October 1935.

APPENDIX A.

Details of expenditure incurred in the Anamalais Plantation Division for the year ended 31st March 1935.

	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.
Plantations—		
Plantation operations	20,587 6 6	
Nurseries	4,484 14 6	
Other expenditure	5,386 14 2	
		30,459 3 2
Establishment and other overhead charges—		
Salaries	12,524 3 0	
Allowances	153 1 0	
Leave, pension and provident fund contribution ..	2,921 0 0	
Interest on capital	40,389 0 0	
		55,987 4 0
Total ..		86,446 7 2

Note.—Depreciation charges were not budgeted for according to the orders contained in G.O. No. 901, Development, dated 5th July 1932.

SUB-EN

(i)

CINCHONA DEPART

Balance Sheet as at

CAPITAL AND LIABILITIES.

	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.
Capital—*Government of Madras* as per Schedule 9 ..	..	23,46,539 10 10
Capital Reserve Account—Plantations	..	69,699 12 0
Indirect charges—		
Interest on capital	1,14,413 0 0	
Contribution for leave	7,080 0 0	
Contribution for pension	5,727 0 0	
Contributory Provident Fund	621 0 0	
Audit fee	1,740 0 0	
	1,29,581 0 0	
Less interest on Depreciation Reserve Investment ..	4,000 6 3	
Liabilities—		1,25,580 9 9
For supplies and expenses, etc.	17,578 3 0	
„ salaries	5,404 11 0	
		22,982 14 0
Superintendent, Penitentiary, Madras	..	18,177 9 2
Profit and Loss *Account*—Net profit for the year ..	..	43,648 4 7
Total ..		26,26,628 12 4

Examined and found correct

OFFICE OF THE ACCOUNTANT-GENERAL, MADRAS,
10*th October* 1935.

19th March 1936]

CLOSURES.

MENT, MADRAS.

31st March 1935.

PROPERTY AND ASSETS.

	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.
Fixed assets—		
Buildings at depreciated value—vide Schedule 2 ..	..	1,38,348 12 3
Plant and Machinery at depreciated value—vide Schedule 4 ..	..	10,394 15 0
Office furniture at depreciated value—vide Schedule 5 ..	..	2,315 15 10
Cart roads and bridges—as per last balance sheet.	71,501 1 8	
Less depreciation for the year ..	2,380 0 0	
		69,121 1 8
Electric installation at depreciated value—vide Schedule 3 ..	..	1 0 0
Motor lorry at cost less depreciation to date—vide Schedule 4 ..	..	2,983 0 0
Plantations as per separate accounts—		
Dodabetta ..	11,563 5 9	
Naduvattam ..	3,95,728 12 10	
Anamalais ..	9,59,882 4 10	
		13,67,174 7 5
		15,90,339 4 2
Floating assets—		
Livestock at valuation ..	820 0 0	
Carts and vehicles less depreciation to date ..	104 6 5	
		924 6 5
Laboratory equipment less depreciation to date ..	..	28 12 0
Loose tools at valuation ..	..	1,490 1 8
Stores and spare gear at cost ..	..	14,620 9 11
Stock of packing materials—		
Ootacamund ..	476 12 10	
Penitentiary ..	1,563 1 4	
		2,039 14 2
Stock of fuel ..	..	1,939 6 1
Bark in hand at cost ..	..	2,15,258 5 2
Chemicals ..	..	28,650 11 2
Manufacturing oils ..		3,746 2 3
Stock of manufactured products—		
At Deputy Director's office ..	5,14,815 10 0	
„ Penitentiary ..	73,306 9 0	
Pice packets and treatments ..	37,538 4 0	
		6,25,660 7 0
Book debts—		
Superintendent, Penitentiary ..	59,585 11 0	
Sundries and suspense ..	1,293 6 0	
		60,879 1 0
Public Health Department for loss in the reduction of rates of pice packets and treatments ..	..	3,967 15 0
Depreciation Reserve Investment ..	..	76,783 3 3
Cash and other balances—		
Superintendent, Anamalais ..	0 0 3	
Superintendent, Naduvattam ..	13 1 10	
Chemist, Quinine Factory ..	287 7 0	
		300 9 1
	Total ..	26,26,628 12 4

subject to my report of even date.

S. SRINIVASAN,
Examiner, Outside Audit Department.

[19th March 1936

(ii)

Subsidiary Balance Sheet showing the position

CAPITAL AND LIABILITIES.

	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.
Capital account—		
Balance on 31st March 1934	10,03,732 1 10	
Add additions during the year	86,252 5 9	
	10,89,984 7 7	
Less Miscellaneous receipts to be refunded to Government	9,108 6 7	
	10,80,876 1 0	
Divided as between—		
Works expenditure	7,93,498 1 0	
Interest	2,87,378 0 0	
		10,80,876 1 0
Salaries due		1,055 0 0
Total ..		10,81,931 1 (

(iii

Production Account of the Quinine Factory a

	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.
To Bark consumed for quinine sulphate	2,11,698 0 3	
„ Bark consumed for cinchona febrifuge	27,383 0 3	
		2,39,081 0 (
„ Chemicals and oils used	..	39,961 2]
„ Expenses—		
Fuel, including cutting charges	3,681 8 0	
Feed and upkeep of cattle	1,480 1 1	
Wages of sirdars and coolies	4,409 1 10	
Salaries—Chemist	9,715 3 0	
Salaries—Establishment	5,574 3 0	
Passage pay—Chemist	600 0 0	
Travelling allowances	42 5 0	
		25,502 5 1
„ Contingencies—		
Repairs to buildings and roads	1,487 14 9	
Repairs to plant and machinery	4,238 11 2	
Factory miscellaneous expenses	501 7 4	
Laboratory charges	172 4 6	
Fire insurance	879 2 0	
Boiler inspection charges	60 0 0	
		7,339 7
„ Depreciation on—		
Buildings	2,442 2 0	
Plant and machinery	7,697 5 0	
Office furniture, etc.	476 5 0	
		10,615 12
„ Contribution for leave	1,176 0 0	
„ Contribution for pension	1,202 0 0	
„ Contributary Provident Fund	172 0 0	
		2,550 0
„ Interest on capital	..	8,865 0
Total ..		3,33,934 12

19th March 1936]

f Anamalais Plantation as on 31st March 1935.

PROPERTY AND ASSETS.

	RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.
'ixed assets—									
Buildings as per last balance sheet				73,102	11	2			
Less depreciation up to 31st March 1934	25,864	2	6						
Less depreciation for the year ..	5,515	8	0						
				31,379	10	6			
							41,723	0	8
Furniture as per last balance sheet				1,899	3	0			
Less depreciation up to 31st March 1934	886	5	3						
Less depreciation for the year ..	120	4	6						
				1,006	9	9			
							892	9	3
Cart roads and bridges				78,641	1	8			
Less depreciation up to 31st March 1934.	7,140	0	0						
Less depreciation for the year	2,380	0	0						
				9,520	0	0			
							69,121	1	8
Plantations as per separate account				..			9,59,882	4	10
							10,71,619	0	5
'loating assets—									
Tools as per valuation				..			564	12	0
Stores at cost				..			64	12	1
Depreciation Reserve Investment				..			9,682	8	3
Cash in hand				..			0	0	3
				Total ..			10,81,931	1	0

'aduvattam, for the year ended 31st March 1935.

	RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.
By value of products taken to trading account—						
Quinine sulphate 17,414 lb. at Rs. 11–9–3·6 per lb. ..	2,01,675	7	4			
Quinine sulphate tablets 4,900 ¼ lb. at Rs. 10–3–6·6 per lb.	50,085	15	4			
Quinine hydrochloride 700 lb. at Rs. 16–7–7·5 per lb.	11,533	12	4			
Quinine bi-hydrochloride 875½ lb. at Rs. 18–0–7 *less* value of 844½ lb. of hydrochloride	937	15	10			
Cinchona febrifuge 9,045 lb. at Rs. 4–4–3·2 per lb. ..	38,591	6	8			
Cinchona febrifuge tablets 1,574 lb. at Rs. 4–0–9·6 *less* value of 929·3 lb. tablets	2,612	4	3			
Totaquina 3,639 lb. at Rs. 7–8–2·5 per lb. *less* value of 504 lb. of febrifuge used	23,112	0	2			
Totaquina tablets 1,613½ lb. at Rs. 6–14–3·6 per lb. *less* value of 672 lb. of totaquina used	5,264	13	4			
				3,33,813	11	3
Trading account for sundry charges incurred on reconversion of finished products	..			121	1	0
	Total ..			3,33,934	12	3

(iv)

Cost sheet of quinine sulphate and other products manufactured during 1934-35.

	RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.
Total expenditure as per production account	..			3,33,934	12	
Less—cost of bark consumed—						
Quinine sulphate	2,11,698	0	3			
Cinchona febrifuge	27,383	0	3			
Charges on 12,081 lb. of cinchona febrifuge manufactured at Rs. 2 per lb.	24,162	0	0			
Cost of converting—						
6 lb. of quinine sulphate into bi-hydrochloride at Rs. 4 per lb.	24	0	0			
844½ lb. of hydrochloride into bi-hydrochloride at Re. 1 per lb.	844	8	0			
791 lb. of quinine sulphate into hydrochloride at Rs. 3 per lb.	2,373	0	0			
3,981 lb. of quinine sulphate into tablets at Re. 1 per lb.	3,981	0	0			
496 lb. of cinchona febrifuge into tablets at Re. 1 per lb.	496	0	0			
1,235 lb. of totaquina into tablets at Re. 1 per lb.	1,235	0	0			
Charges on 3,902 lb. of totaquina manufactured at Re. 1 per lb.	3,902	0	0			
Sundry reconversion charges to trading account	121	1	0			
Extra charges chargeable to manufacture of totaquina—855 lb. of totaquina at 8 annas per lb. (re-purification)	427	8	0	2,76,647	1	6
Balance being extraction cost of 23,226 lb. of quinine sulphate	..			57,287	10	9

	Quantity. LB.	Amount. RS.	A.	P.	Rate per lb. RS.	A.	P.
Quinine sulphate—							
Cost of bark consumed		2,11,698	0	3	9	1	10·0
Extraction charges		57,287	10	9	2	7	5·6
	23,226	2,68,985	11	0	11	9	3·6
Quinine hydrochloride—							
Cost of 791 lb. quinine sulphate at Rs. 11-9-3·6 per lb.		9,160	12	4			
Chemicals, etc.		2,373	0	0			
	700	11,533	12	4	16	7	7·5

Quinine bi-hydrochloride—							
Cost of 6 lb. of quinine sulphate at Rs. 11–9–3·6 per lb. ..		69	7	10			
Cost of 844½ lb. of hydrochloride at Rs. 17–9–4·9 per lb. ..		14,853	1	0			
Chemicals, etc.		868	8	0			
	875½	15,791	0	10	18	0	7
Quinine sulphate tablets—							
Cost of 3,981 lb. of quinine sulphate at Rs. 11–9–3·6 per lb. ..		46,104	15	4			
Chemicals, etc.		3,981	0	0			
	4,900¼	50,085	15	4	10	3	6·6
Cinchona febrifuge—							
Cost of bark consumed		27,383	0	3			
Chemicals, etc.		24,162	0	0			
	12,081	51,545	0	3	4	4	3·2
Cinchona febrifuge tablets—							
Cost of 496 lb. cinchona febrifuge at Rs. 4–4–3·2 per lb. ..		2,116	4	3			
Chemicals, etc.		496	0	0			
	645	2,612	4	3	4	0	9·6
Totaquina—							
Cost of 1,034 lb. of quinine sulphate at Rs. 11–9–3·6 per lb. ..		11,975	0	2			
Cost of 504 lb. of cinchona febrifuge at Rs. 4–5–0·2 per lb ..		2,174	0	5			
Cost of 2,540 lb. of cinchona febrifuge at Rs. 4–4–3·2 per lb. ..		10,837	5	4			
Extraction charges		4,329	8	0			
	3,902	29,315	13	11	7	8	2·5
Totaquina tablets—							
Cost of 672 lb. of totaquina at Rs. 8–11–5·9 per lb.		5,858	10	4			
Cost of 563 lb. of totaquina at Rs. 7–8–2·5 per lb.		4,029	13	4			
Chemicals, etc.		1,235	0	0			
	1,613½	11,123	7	8	6	14	3·6

(v)

Trading Account for the year

	Quantity. LB.	OZ.	Rate per lb. RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.
To stock on 1st April 1934—											
At the factory—											
Quinine hydrochloride ..	844	8	17	9	4·9	14,853	1	0			
Cinchona febrifuge ..	1,440	0	4	5	0·2	6,211	8	0	21,064	9	0
At the Deputy Director's office—											
Quinine sulphate ..	25,763	2½	12	11	7·5	3,27,876	7	0			
Do. bi-sulphate ..	1,359	8	12	7	8·7	16,970	6	0			
Do. sulphate tablets ..	19	8	11	3	2	218	6	0			
Do. bi-sulphate tablets ..	343	14	12	12	6	4,395	2	0			
Do. bi-hydrochloride tablets.	3	0	17	0	8	51	2	0			
Cinchona febrifuge ..	40,238	12	4	5	0·2	1,73,571	8	0			
Do. do. tablets ..	1,294	0	3	9	10·6	4,682	0	0			
Totaquina	3,184	8	8	11	5·9	27,763	3	0			
Do. tablets ..	3	6	7	7	5	25	3	0	5,55,553	5	0
At the Penitentiary—											
Quinine sulphate ..	2,339	6	12	11	7·5	29,772	3	0			
Do. do. tablets.	1,214	7	11	3	2	13,599	3	0			
Do bi-sulphate tablets	2	0	12	12	6	25	9	0			
Do. hydrochloride ..	189	15	17	9	4·9	3,340	10	0			
Do. bi-hydrochloride ..	158	0	18	6	6·7	2,908	12	0			
Cinchona bark ..	1	0	0	4	0	0	4	0			
Do. febrifuge ..	2,058	5	4	5	0·2	8,878	10	0			
Do do. tablets.	308	15½	3	9	10·7	1,117	15	0			
Totaquina ..	582	9	8	11	5·9	5,078	15	0	64,722	1	(
To production account being value of products manufactured—											
Quinine sulphate ..	17,414	0	11	9	3·6	2,01,675	7	4			
Do. tablets	4,900¼	0	10	3	6·6	50,085	15	4			
Do. hydrochloride ..	700	0	16	7	7·5	11,533	12	4			
Do. bi-hydrochloride ..	875	8	18	0	7	937	15	10			
Cinchona febrifuge ..	9,045	0	4	4	3·2	38,591	6	8			
Do. do. tablets.	1,574	0	4	0	9·6	2,612	4	3			
Totaquina	3,339	0	7	8	2·5	23,112	0	2			
Do. tablets ..	1,613	8	6	14	3·6	5,264	13	4	3,33,813	11	
To Production account being the reconversion charges of finished products									121	1	
,, Value of bark consigned to the Penitentiary 1,050 lb. at Re. 0–4–2½ per lb.									276	1	
,, Motor lorry working expenses									5,168	2	
,, Depreciation on motor lorry									745	8	
,, Packing charges									5,102	0	
,, Carriage outwards									51	4	
,, Distribution charges, etc., at Penitentiary paid by way of expenses ..									4,231	8	
,, Commission to Penitentiary									2,006	14	
,, Gross profit carried to profit and loss account									1,93,265	5	
Total ..									11,86,121	7	

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ended 31st March 1935.

	Quantity.		Rate per lb.								
	LB.	OZ.	RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.
By Sales—											
Quinine sulphate ..	19,476	0	18	3	4·7	3,54,700	4	2			
Do. do. tablets.	2,275	12	19	2	7·5	43,610	15	3			
Do. bi-sulphate ..	160	0	19	0	6	3,045	0	0			
Do. do. tablets.	1	8	21	0	0	31	8	0			
Do. hydrochloride ..	438	8	23	6	9·6	10,254	8	0			
Do. bi-hydrochloride.	992	0	25	2	4·2	24,946	0	0			
Cinchona febrifuge ..	7,369	8	9	0	8·0	66,639	0	0			
Do. do. tablets.	785	0	10	0	0·5	7,852	0	0			
Do. bark	880	0	0	8	0	440	0	0			
Totaquina	4,381	0	13	8	2	59,197	8	0			
Do. tablets ..	527	8	14	7	9·3	7,648	12	0			
									5,78,365	7	5
„ Issues for the manufacture of pice packets—											
Quinine sulphate ..	10	0	12	11	7·5	127	4	3			
Quinine treatments—											
Quinine sulphate tablets 4 grains ..	1,878	0	10	3	6·6	19,506	9	2			
									19,633	13	5
„ Closing stock on 31st March 1935—											
At the Deputy Director's office—											
Quinine sulphate ..	24,286	2½	12	4	7·4	2,98,439	8	0			
Do. bi-sulphate.	1,070	0	12	7	8·7	13,356	10	0			
Do. sulphate tablets ..	628	0	10	3	6·6	6,419	5	0			
Do. hydrochloride ..	300	0	16	7	7·5	4,943	0	0			
Do. bi-hydrochloride.	41	8	18	0	7	748	8	0			
Cinchona febrifuge.	39,855	12	4	4	10·6	1,71,587	5	0			
Cinchona febrifuge tablets	428	0	4	0	9·6	1,733	6	0			
Totaquina	1,424	0	7	8	2·5	10,698	9	0			
Do. tablets.	999	6	6	14	3·6	6,889	7	0			
									5,14,815	10	0
At the Penitentiary—											
Quinine sulphate ..	2,092	9	12	4	7·4	25,707	10	0			
Do. do. tablets.	1,345	15	10	3	6·6	13,758	0	0			
Do. bi-sulphate tablets ..	1	0	12	13	0	12	13	0			
Quinine hydrochloride.	151	7	16	7	7·5	2,495	3	0			
Cinchona febrifuge ..	5,062	12	4	4	10·6	21,796	3	0			
Do. febrifuge tablets ..	1,034	15½	4	0	9·6	4,191	10	0			
Totaquina	622	14	7	8	2·5	4,679	11	0			
Do. tablets ..	90	0	6	14	3·6	620	7	0			
Cinchona bark ..	169	0		..		45	0	0			
									73,306	9	0
Total ..									11,86,121	7	10

(vi)

Pice Packets and Treatments Trading

	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.
To Stock on 1st April 1934—			
Pice packets—			
At Penitentiary 286·89 packets at Rs. 1-15-6 a packet	564 13 0		
With Postmasters 3,267·32 packets at Rs. 1-15-6 a packet ..	6,433 3 0	6,998 0 0	
Treatments—			
At Penitentiary 4,492·22 packets or 641·75 lb. at Rs. 11-5-3 per lb.	7,269 13 2		
With Postmasters 16,087·68 packets or 2,298·25 lb. at Rs. 11-5-3 per lb.	26,037 15 10	33,307 13 0	40,305 13
" Value of 10 lb. of quinine sulphate used for manufacture at Rs. 12-11-7·5 per lb.		..	127 4
" Value of 1,878 lb. of quinine sulphate tablets used for the manufacture of treatments		..	19,506 9
" Commission and conversion charges payable to the Superintendent, Penitentiary—			
Commission		1,022 11 4	
Conversion charges		5,113 8 8	6,136 4
" Gross profit transferred to profit and loss account ..		..	14,155 0
		Total ..	80,230 14

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Profit and Loss Account for

	RS. A. P.	RS. A.
To Direction expenses—	20,615 7 0	
Salary of Deputy Director	600 0 0	
Passage pay	6,001 9 0	
Office establishment salaries	1,527 14 0	
Travelling expenses	1,934 7 11	
Rent, rates and taxes	437 14 0	
Postage and telegrams	835 1 9	31,952
Office expenses		
" Repairs to buildings	663 12 1	
" Audit fee	1,740 0 0	
" Leave contribution	4,177 0 0	
" Pension contribution	3,604 0 0	
" Contributory provident fund contribution	176 0 0	
" Share of interest on capital	65,139 0 0	75,499
" Depreciation on buildings	284 0 0	
" Depreciation on office furniture	170 3 9	454
" Amount provided for capital reserve	..	60,000
" Net profit carried to balance sheet	..	43,648
	Total ..	2,11,554

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Account for the year ended 31st March 1934.

		RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.
By Sales—			
719 pice packets		3,094 4 0	
12,803 treatments		35,286 12 0	
			38,381 0 0
,, Pice packets replaced by treatments		..	343 11 6
,, Public Health Department for loss incurred in the sale of treatments		..	3,967 15 0
,, Closing stock on 31st March 1935—			
Pice packets—			
At Penitentiary	450·9		
With Postmasters	2,285·0		
	2,735·9	5,375 12 0	
Treatments—			
At Penitentiary	4,485·525		
With Postmasters	16,594·000		
	21,079·525 or 3,011·36 lb. at Rs. 10–10–10·7	32,162 8 0	
			37,538 4 0
		Total ..	80,230 14 6

year ended 31st March 1935.

	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.
By Gross profit from trading account	1,93,265 5 11	
Pice packets and treatments trading account ..	14,155 0 1	
		2,07,420 6 0
,, Interest on depreciation reserve investment ..	..	4,000 6 3
,, Miscellaneous receipts	..	133 13 10
	Total ..	2,11,554 10 1

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(viii)

Plantation Account, Naduvattam, Hooker, Moyar and

	RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.
To Value of plantations on 1st April 1934—						
Blocks developed, 170·13 acres	74,820	0	4			
Blocks in development, 616·18 acres	2,76,225	1	4			
				3,51,045	1	8
„ Wages, etc.—						
Blocks in development—						
Hooker	18,403	2	2			
Naduvattam	36,030	6	10			
				54,433	9	[illegible]
Blocks developed—						
Hooker	3,492	14	7			
Naduvattam	6,644	10	7			
				10,137	9	[illegible]
Overhead charges—						
Salaries—Superintendent	5,789	6	0			
Salaries—Establishment	4,966	14	0			
Travelling allowances	33	13	0			
General charges	3,893	10	1			
Feed and keep of bulls	2,268	0	3			
Repairs to buildings and roads	1,609	8	4			
Rates and taxes	134	2	0			
				18,695	5	[illegible]
„ Harvesting charges	..			2,793	10	[illegible]
„ Depreciation on—						
Buildings	1,461	0	0			
Furniture	19	5	2			
Livestock, carts and tools	1,557	4	8			
				3,037	9	1
Capital reserve	..			1,837	15	
Total ..				4,41,980	13	

* Distributed as under—

	RS.	A.	P.
Blocks in development (616 acres)	14,645	5	8
Blocks developed (170 acres)	4,050	0	0
	18,695	5	8

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Wood Estates for the year ended 31st March 1935.

By Sale of bark—

	LB.	UNITS. Quinine sulphate.	UNITS. Alkaloids.	RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.
Naduvattam ..	63,489	230,144	128,206	24,111	8	5			
Hooker	58,333	191,315	121,041	20,239	0	0			
							44,350	8	5
„ Miscellaneous receipts				..			1,901	8	0
„ Value of plantations on 31st March 1934				3,51,045	1	8			
Add direct expenses on blocks in development per contra				54,433	9	0			
Add share of overheads—per contra				14,645	5	8			
				4,20,124	0	4			

Less value of acreages harvested—

	ACS.	RS.	A.	P.
Hooker—				
1918 block	0·50	141	14	8
1917 „	0·66	97	10	0
1916 „	0·71	79	1	6
Naduvattam—				
1918 block	2·02	566	2	0
1917 „	1·50	562	3	3
1915 „	0·49	135	6	2
1908 „	1·25	579	13	11
		2,162	3	6

Less value of bark from blocks in development—

	LB.	RS.	A.	P.
Hooker	40,000	13,878	0	0
Naduvattam	22,000	8,355	0	0
Total ..		22,233	0	0

	RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.
	24,395	3	6			
				3,95,728	12	10
Total ..				4,41,980	13	3

	RS.	A.	P.
Value of plantations on 31st March 1935 on bark basis—			
Naduvattam, *493,711 lb. at 3·5 per cent quinine sulphate and 1 per cent alkaloids*— 1,727,988 units quinine sulphate at 1⅝ annas a unit and 493,711 units alkaloids at ½ anna a unit	1,63,927	7	6
Hooker, 649,000 lb. at 3·5 per cent quinine sulphate and 1 per cent alkaloids— 2,271,500 units quinine sulphate at 1⅝ annas a unit and 649,000 units alkaloids at ½ anna a *unit*	*2,15,488*	4	0
	3,79,415	11	6

[19th March 1936

(ix)

Plantation Account—Dodabetta—

	RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P
To Opening Balance—						
Value of plantations on 1st April 1934 (61·3 acres) ..	..			18,031	5	9
Expenditure—						
Wages on blocks developed	..			7,212	1	(
Salaries—						
Establishment	3,138	0	0			
Travelling allowances	67	9	0			
General charges	517	10	0			
Feed and keep of bulls	25	15	0			
Repairs to buildings	201	12	3			
				3,950	14	:
„ Harvesting charges	..			913	4	
„ Depreciation on—						
Buildings	492	0	0			
Furniture	5	8	0			
Tools, livestock and carts	103	2	0			
				600	10	
„ Capital reserve account	..			840	6	
Total ..				31,548	10	

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Plantation Account—Anamalais

	RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.
To Value of plantations on 31st March 1934—					
Working charges	6,27,107	3	6		
Interest	2,46,989	0	0		
				8,74,096	3
„ Planting operations	..			20,587	6
„ Nurseries	..			4,484	14
„ *Other expenditure*	..			5,386	14
„ Overheads—					
Salaries	12,524	3	0		
Travelling Allowances	153	1	0		
				12,677	4
„ Depreciation on—					
Buildings	5,515	8	0		
Roads	2,380	0	0		
Furniture	120	4	6		
Tools	432	4	3		
				8,448	(
„ Contribution for—					
Contributory provident fund	273	0	0		
Leave	1,727	0	0		
Pension	921	0	0		
				2,921	
„ Interest on capital	..			40,389	
Total ..				9,68,990	1

19th March 1936]

for the year ended 31st March 1935.

			RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.
By Sale of bark to factory at market rate—				
52,371 lb. quinine sulphate units ..	175,009	..	15,263 1 1	
Alkaloids units	77,464	..	2,420 12 2	
				17,683 13 3
„ Sale of fuel, etc.		..	2,977 11 0	
Less cutting and other charges		..	676 4 0	
				2,301 7 0
„ Value of plantations as on 31st March 1935—				
Value as on 1st April 1934		..	18,031 5 9	
Less value of blocks harvested—				
1881 and 1914—22 acres at Rs. 294 per acre ..		..	6,468 0 0	
				11,563 5 9
			Total ..	31,548 10 0

Value of plantations on bark basis on 31st March 1935—	
Estimated bark on trees 150,000 lb. at 3·5 per cent quinine sulphate and 1 per cent alkaloids—	
525,000 units quinine sulphate at 1-3/8 annas per unit	45,117 3 0
150,000 units alkaloids at 1/2 anna per unit	4,687 8 0
Total ..	49,804 11 0

for the year ended 31st March 1935.

		RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.
By Value of bark—18,078 lb. (96,721 units quinine sulphate and 20,305 units alkaloids) at market rates ..	..	9,516 5 1	
Less harvesting charges	..	868 6 6	
			8,647 14 7
„ Miscellaneous receipts	..	..	460 8 0
„ Closing value of plantations as on 31st March 1935	..	..	9,59,882 4 10
		Total ..	9,68,990 11 5

(xi)

Schedule (1)—Receipts, Disposals and Balances of Finished Products, 1934–35.

(i) Quinine Sulphate (Bulk).

	LB.	OZ.	LB.	OZ.
To Opening balance on 1st April 1934—				
At Penitentiary ..	2,339	6		
At Deputy Director of Agriculture's office (white) ..	4,008	0		
At Deputy Director of Agriculture's office (pink) ..	21,755	2½	28,102	8½
„ Manufactured during the year	..		23,226	0(a)
„ Receipts on reconversion from—				
Quinine bi-sulphate.	104	0		
Quinine sulphate tablets 5 grains..	6	0		
Quinine bi-sulphate tablets.. ..	243	0		
Quinine bi-hydrochloride tablets..	3	0	356	0
Total ..			51,684	8½

	LB.	OZ.	LB.	OZ.
By Sales—				
At Penitentiary ..	19,355	0		
At Deputy Director of Agriculture's office.	121	0	19,476	0
„ Issues for pice packets..	..		10	0
„ Wastage in breaking bulk.	..		7	13
„ Issues for reconversion—				
5-grain tablets	1,521	0		
4-grain tablets	2,453	0		
¼-grain tablets	7	0		
Bi-hydrochloride ..	6	0		
Hydrochloride	791	0	4,778	0
„ Quinine sulphate equivalent in totaquina, manufactured ..	..		1,034	0
„ Closing stock on 31st March 1935—				
At the Penitentiary.	2,092	9		
At the Deputy Director of Agriculture's office (white)	3,838	0		
At the Deputy Director of Agriculture's office (pink)	20,448	2½	26,378	11½
Total ..			51,684	8½

(a) Quinine sulphate actually manufactured during the year amounted to 22,192 lb. The balance of 1,034 lb. represents the quinine sulphate equivalent contained in the 3,902 lb. of totaquina manufactured during the year from the residues.

(ii) Quinine Bi-Sulphate.

To Opening balance on 1st April 1934—			By Sales—		
At the Deputy Director of Agriculture's office ..	..	1,359 8	At Deputy Director of Agriculture's office	..	160 0
			,, Issues for conversion into quinine sulphate.	..	129 8
			,, Closing stock on 31st March 1935—		
			At Deputy Director of Agriculture's office	..	1,070 0
Total ..		1,359 8	Total ..		1,359 8

(iii) Quinine Sulphate Tablets—5 grains.

To Opening balance on 1st April 1934—			By Sales—		
At Penitentiary ..	824 1		At Deputy Director of Agriculture's office.	2 0	
At Deputy Director of Agriculture's office	2 0		At Penitentiary ..	2,200 0	
		826 1			2,202 0
,, Manufactured during the year	..	1,825 0	,, Issues for re-manufacture.	..	7 0
,, Excess in breaking bulk.	..	0 8	,, Closing stock on 31st March 1935—		
			At Penitentiary ..	..	442 9
Total ..		2,651 9	Total ..		2,651 9

(iv) Quinine Sulphate Tablets—4 grains.

To Opening balance on 1st April 1934—			By Sales—		
At Penitentiary ..	300 0		At Deputy Director of Agriculture's office.	..	1 0
At Deputy Director of Agriculture's office	17 8		,, Issues for manufacture of treatments ..	..	1,878 0
		317 8	,, Closing stock on 31st March 1935—		
,, Manufactured during the year	..	3,067 0	At Penitentiary ..	877 8	
			At Deputy Director of Agriculture's office ..	628 0	
					1,505 8
Total ..		3,384 8	Total ..		3,384 8

(v) Quinine Sulphate tablets—2 grains.

	LB. OZ.	LB. OZ.		LB. OZ.	LB. OZ.
To Opening balance on 1st April 1934— At Penitentiary ..	..	90 6	By Sales— At Penitentiary ..	..	64 8
			,, Closing stock on 31st March 1935— At Penitentiary ..	..	25 14
Total ..		90 6	Total ..		90 6

(vi) Quinine Sulphate Tablets—¼ grain.

To manufacture during the year	..	8 4	By Sales— At Deputy Director of Agriculture's office.	..	8 4

(vii) Quinine Bi-Sulphate tablets.

To Opening balance on 1st April 1934— At Deputy Director of Agriculture's office ..	343 14		By Sales— At Penitentiary ..	1 0	
At Penitentiary ..	2 0	345 14	At Deputy Director of Agriculture's office ..	0 8	1 8
			,, Issues for reconversion into quinine sulphate.	..	343 6
			,, Closing stock on 31st March 1935— At Penitentiary ..	..	1 0
Total ..		345 14	Total ..		345 14

(viii) Quinine Hydrochloride.

To Opening balance on 1st April 1934—			By Sales—		
At Factory ..	844 8		At Penitentiary		438 8
At Penitentiary ..	189 15	1,034 7	,, Issues for conversion into bi-hydrochloride. ..		844 8
,, Manufactured during the year		700 0	,, Closing stock on 31st March 1935—		
			At Penitentiary ..	151 7	
			At Deputy Director of Agriculture's office	300 0	451 7
Total ..		1,734 7	Total ..		1,734 7

(ix) Quinine Bi-hydrochloride.

To Opening balance on 1st April 1934—		By Sales—	
At Penitentiary	158 0	At Penitentiary	992 0
,, Manufactured during the year	875 8	,, Closing stock on 31st March 1935—	
		At Deputy Director of Agriculture's office	41 8
Total ..	1,033 8	Total ..	1,033 8

(x) Quinine Bi-hydrochloride tablets.

To Opening balance on 1st April 1934—		By Issues for reconversion into—	
At Deputy Director of Agriculture's office	3 0	Quinine sulphate	3 0

(xi) Cinchona Bark.

	LB. OZ.	LB. OZ.		LB. OZ.	LB. OZ.
To Opening balance on 1st April 1934—			By Sales—		
At Penitentiary ..	..	1 0	At Penitentiary ..	..	880 0
,, Receipts from factory ..	..	1,050 0	,, Wastage and dryage in breaking bulk ..	..	2 0
			,, Closing stock on 31st March 1935—		
			At Penitentiary ..	..	169 0
Total ..		1,051 0	Total ..		1,051 0

(xii) Cinchona Febrifuge.

	LB. OZ.	LB. OZ.		LB. OZ.	LB. OZ.
To Opening balance on 1st April 1934—			By Sales—		
At Penitentiary ..	2,058 5		At Penitentiary ..	5,834 8	
At Deputy Director of Agriculture's office	40,238 12		At Deputy Director of Agriculture's office	1,535 0	7,369 8
At Factory ..	1,440 0	43,737 1	,, Issues for conversion into tablets	496 0	
,, Manufactured during the year	..	12,081 0*	,, Issues for conversion into Totaquina ..	504 0	1,000 0
,, Excess in breaking bulk	..	9 15	,, Febrifuge equivalent in the totaquina manufactured	..	2,540 0
			,, Closing stock on 31st March 1935—		
			At Penitentiary ..	5,062 12	
			At Deputy Director of Agriculture's office	39,855 12	44,918 8
Total ..		55,828 0	Total ..		55,828 0

* Cinchona febrifuge actually manufactured during the year amounted to 9,541 lb. *The balance of* 2,540 lb. represents the febrifuge equivalent in the totaquina manufactured during the year.

(xiii) Cinchona Febrifuge tablets—5 grains.

To Opening balance on 1st *April 1934*—			By Sales—		
At Penitentiary ..	260 15½		At Penitentiary ..	431 0	
At Deputy Director of Agriculture's office	375 0		At Deputy Director of Agriculture's office	8 12	
		635 15½			439 12
Manufactured during the year ..	..	626 12	„ Closing stock on 31st March 1935— At Penitentiary ..	..	822 15½
Total ..		1,262 11½	Total ..		1;262 11½

(xiv) Cinchona Febrifuge tablets—4 grains.

To Opening balance on 1st April 1934—			By Sales—		
At Penitentiary ..	48 0		At Penitentiary ..	342 0	
At Deputy Director of Agriculture's office	15 0		At Deputy Director of Agriculture's office	1 0	
		63 0			343 0
„ Manufactured during the year	..	920 0	„ Closing stock on 31st March 1935—		
			At Penitentiary ..	212 0	
			At Deputy Director of Agriculture's office	428 0	
					640 0
Total ..		983 0	Total ..		983 0

(xv) Cinchona Febrifuge tablets—3 grains.

To Opening balance on 1st April 1934—			By Sales—		
At Deputy Director of Agriculture's office	..	904 0	At Deputy Director of Agriculture's office	..	2 4
„ Manufactured during the year	..	1 4	„ Issues for reconversion	..	903 0
Total ..		905 4	Total ..		905 4

(xvi) Government of India Stocks.

	LB. OZ.	LB. OZ.		LB. OZ.	LB. OZ.
To Opening balance on 1st April 1934—			By Transfer to Director, Botanical Survey—		
Quinine sulphate ..	611 13¼		Febrifuge	..	10,462 0
,, Cinchona febrifuge ..	10,462 0	11,073 13¼	,, Closing stock on 31st March 1935—		
			Quinine sulphate ..	..	611 13¼
Total ..		11,073 13¼	Total ..		11,073 13¼

(xvii) Totaquina.

	LB. OZ.	LB. OZ.		LB. OZ.	LB. OZ.
To Opening balance on 1st April 1934—			By Sales—		
At Penitentiary ..	582 9		At Penitentiary ..	3,211 0	
At Deputy Director of Agriculture's office	3,184 8	3,767 1	At Deputy Director of Agriculture's office	1,170 0	4,381 0
,, Manufactured during the year	..	3,902 0	,, Issues for reconversion into tablets	..	1,235 0
			,, Wastage in breaking bulk	..	6 3
			,, Closing stock on 31st March 1935—		
			At Penitentiary ..	622 14	
			At Deputy Director of Agriculture's office	1,424 0	2,046 14
Total ..		7,669 1	Total ..		7,669 1

(xviii) Totaquina tablets.

To Opening balance on 1st April 1934—			By Sales—		
At Deputy Director of Agriculture's office	..	3 6	At Penitentiary ..	510 0	
			At Deputy Director of Agriculture's office	17 8	527 8
,, Manufactured during the year	..	1,613 8	,, Closing Stock on 31st March 1935—		
			At Penitentiary ..	90 0	
			At Deputy Director of Agriculture's office	999 6	1,089 6
Total ..		1,616 14	Total ..		1,616 14

(xix) Pice Packets and Treatments.

		PACKETS.			PACKETS.
To Opening balance on 1st April 1934—			By Sales	.	13,523·660
At Penitentiary ..	4,779·11		,, Return of permanent advance in cash ..	..	122·425
With Postmasters.	19,355·0	24,134·11	,, Loss replaced	..	4·500
,, Manufactured during the year	..	13,330·90	,, Closing stock on 31st March 1935—		
,, Excess returned ..	..	1·00	At Penitentiary ..	4,936·425	
			With Postmasters.	18,879·000	23,815·425
Total ..		37,466·010	Total ..		37,466·010

(xii)

Schedule (2)—Details of Buildings as on 31st March 1935.

	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.
Dodabetta—			
As per balance sheet as on 31st March 1934	..	16,400 0 0	
Less depreciation up to 31st March 1934	6,387 0 0		
Less depreciation for the year	492 0 0	6,879 0 0	
			9,521 0 0
Naduvattam—			
As per balance sheet as on 31st March 1934	..	48,702 5 7	
Less depreciation up to 31st March 1934	13,574 0 0		
Less depreciation for the year	1,461 0 0	15,035 0 0	
			33,667 5 7
Factory—			
As per balance sheet as on 31st March 1934	..	81,118 8 0	
Less depreciation up to 31st March 1934	30,708 0 0		
Less depreciation for the year	2,442 2 0	33,150 2 0	
			47,968 6 0
Direction—			
As per balance sheet as on 31st March 1934	..	9,450 0 0	
Less depreciation up to 31st March 1934	3,697 0 0		
Less depreciation for the year	284 0 0	3,981 0 0	
			5,469 0 0
Anamalais—			
As per balance sheet as on 31st March 1934	..	73,102 11 2	
Less depreciation up to 31st March 1934	25,864 2 6		
Less depreciation for the year	5,515 8 0	31,379 10 6	
			41,723 0 8
		Total ..	1,38,348 12 3

(xiii)

Schedule (3)—Details of Electric Installation as on 31st March 1935.

	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.
As per balance sheet as on 31st March 1934	..	991 0 0	
Less depreciation up to 31st March 1934	942 0 0		
Less depreciation for the year	48 0 0		
		990 0 0	
			1 0 0

(xiv)

Schedule (4)—Details of Plant and Machinery and Motor Lorry as on 31st March 1935.

	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.
Plant and Machinery—			
As per balance sheet as on 31st March 1934	..	1,09,545 8 3	
Less depreciation up to 31st March 1934	91,453 4 3		
Less depreciation for the year	7,697 5 0		
		99,150 9 3	
			10,394 15 0
Motor lorry—			
As per balance sheet as on 31st March 1934	..	4,726 9 1	
Less depreciation up to 31st March 1934	998 1 1		
Less depreciation for the year	745 8 0		
		1,743 9 1	
			2,983 0 0

(xv)

Schedule (5)—Details of Office Furniture as on 31st March 1935.

	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.
Dodabotta—			
As per balance sheet as on 31st March 1934	..	172 0 0	
Less depreciation up to 31st March 1934	147 10 0		
Less depreciation for the year	5 8 0	153 2 0	18 14 0
Naduvattam—			
As per balance sheet as on 31st March 1934	..	359 5 6	
Add additions during the year	..	37 8 0	
		396 13 6	
Less depreciation up to 31st March 1934	256 12 0		
Less depreciation for the year	19 5 2	276 1 2	120 12 4
Factory—			
As per balance sheet as on 31st March 1934	..	1,326 5 4	
Less depreciation up to 31st March 1934	951 15 4		
Less depreciation for the year	74 4 0	1,026 3 4	300 2 0
Direction—			
As per balance sheet as on 31st March 1934	..	2,222 14 0	
Less depreciation up to 31st March 1934	1,117 0 0		
Less depreciation for the year	122 3 9	1,239 3 9	983 10 3
Anamalais—			
As per balance sheet as on 31st March 1934	..	1,899 3 0	
Less depreciation up to 31st March 1934	886 5 3		
Less depreciation for the year	120 4 6	1,006 9 9	892 9 3
		Total ..	2,315 15 10

(xvi)

Schedule (6)—Details of depreciation charges for the year ended 31st March 1935.

	RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.
Buildings—						
Dodabetta	492	0	0			
Naduvattam	1,461	0	0			
Factory	2,442	2	0			
Direction	284	0	0			
Anamalais	5,515	8	0			
				10,194	10	0
Plant and Machinery—						
Factory				7,697	5	0
Furniture—						
Dodabetta	5	8	0			
Naduvattam	19	5	2			
Factory	74	4	0			
Direction	122	3	9			
Anamalais	120	4	6			
				341	9	5
Electric installation—						
Direction				48	0	0
Motor lorry—						
Direction				745	8	0
Total ..				19,027	0	5
Roads—						
Anamalais				2,380	0	0

(xvii)

Schedule (7)—Details of Interest on Capital invested—1934-35.

'A'

	RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.
Interest on fixed assets—						
Interest at 3·3252 per cent on Rs. 1,50,943	5,019	0	0			
„ at 5·21 per cent on Rs. 9,08,099	47,312	0	0			
Interest on floating assets—						
Interest at 5·21 per cent on Rs. 11,91,603	62,082	0	0			
22,50,645				1,14,413	0	0
Apportioned between—						
Production account				8,885	0	0
Anamalais Plantation Account				40,389	0	0
Profit and Loss Account				65,139	0	0
				1,14,413	0	0

'B-1'

	RS.	A.	P.
Opening balance of capital on 1st April 1934	26,05,117	0	0
Less total interest on Anamalais	2,46,989	0	0
	23,58,128	0	0
Closing balance of capital on 31st March 1935 excluding indirect charges, viz., interest, audit fee, leave contribution, pension contribution and contributory provident fund (*as per* paragraph 4 of G.O. No. 632, Development, dated 1st May 1931)	23,46,540	0	0
Less total interest on Anamalais	2,46,989	0	0
	20,99,551	0	0
Add profit during the year 1934-35	43,612	0	0
	21,43,163	0	0
Add opening balance on 1st April 1934 as above	23,58,128	0	0
	2)45,01,291	0	0
Mean capital	22,50,645	0	0

(1) Assets prior to 1916–17 at 3·3252 per cent				1,50,943	0	0
(2) Assets after 1916–17 at 5·21 per cent				20,99,702	0	0
Interest on item (1)				5,019	0	0
Interest on item (2)				1,09,394	0	0
Total ..				1,14,413	0	0

'B-2'

Opening balance of capital on 1st April 1934				26,05,117	0	0
Less total interest on Anamalais				2,46,989	0	0
				23,58,128	0	0
Closing balance on 31st March 1935 including the indirect charges, viz., audit fee, leave contribution, pension contribution and contributory provident fund				23,61,708	0	0
Less total interest on Anamalais				2,46,989	0	0
				21,14,719	0	0
Add profit during the year 1934–35				43,262	0	0
				21,57,981	0	0
Opening balance of capital on 1st April 1934				23,58,128	0	0
Closing balance of capital on 31st March 1935				21,57,981	0	0
				2)45,16,109	0	0
Mean capital				22,58,054	0	0
(1) Assets prior to 1916–17 at 3·3252 per cent				1,50,943	0	0
(2) Assets after 1916–17 at 5·21 per cent..				21,07,111	0	0
Interest on item (1)	5,019	0	0			
Interest on item (2)	1,09,781	0	0			
	1,14,800	0	0			
Distributed as under—						
Production account	8,885	0	0			
Anamalais Plantation	40,389	0	0			
Profit and Loss Account	65,526	0	0			
	1,14,800	0	0			

(xviii)

Schedule (8)—Account Current with Superintendent, Penitentiary, Madras.

	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.
Sundry debtors for sales—		
Bulk	59,067 0 0	
Pice-packets and treatments	518 11 0	59,585 11 0
Less distribution charges	19,436 2 4	
,, opening balance of packing materials	1,258 9 2	
	18,177 9 2	
Add outstandings due by jail	25 3 0	18,202 12 2
		41,382 14 10

(xix)

Schedule (9)—Madras Government Capital Account as on 31st March 1935.

	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.
Opening balance on 1st April 1934	26,05,116 8 9	
Add cash expenditure and adjustments, exclusive of indirect charges, viz., interest, audit fee, leave contribution, pension contribution and Contributory Provident Fund	5,07,092 3 10	
		31,12,208 12 7
Less receipts and adjustments	..	7,65,669 1 9
Closing balance on 31st March 1935 ..		23,46,539 10 10

(xx)

Schedule (10)—Depreciation Reserve Account.

	RS. A. P.		RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.
Depreciation Reserve—		Balance as per last account	..	1,76,983 2 5
Amount invested with Government	76,783 3 3	Depreciation for the year 1934–35—		
Balance carried forward.	1,19,226 15 7	Buildings	10,194 10 0	
		Plant and machinery	7,697 5 0	
		Electric installation.	48 0 0	
		Furniture	341 9 5	
		Motor lorry ..	745 8 0	
				19,027 0 5
Total ..	1,96,010 2 10	Total ..		1,96,010 2 10

II

Letter from A. Wilson, Esq., M.A., B.SC., Deputy Director of Agriculture (Cinchona), to the Secretary to Government, Development Department, dated Ootacamund, the 2nd December 1935, No. 122.

I have the honour to offer the following remarks on the points raised in the *audit report* of this department for 1934–35, forwarded to you by the Accountant-General, Madras, under his No. O.A. 33 (*f*) 12/35–36–2014, dated 15th October 1935.

2. The points calling for remarks are four in number and are dealt with below.

3. *Paragraph* 11.—I do not agree that the suggestion of audit should be accepted. The better plan is to exclude what are called " indirect charges," such as audit fee, leave contribution, pension contribution and contributory provident fund for the net effect of including these for interest is to raise the charge for these. For this there is no justification whatever and accordingly B-1 is the correct method. B-1 has the advantage too of bringing the calculation in relation to the amount budgeted for.

4. *Paragraph* 11 (*viii*).—Caustic soda is one of my imported stores obtained by the Director-General of Stores after calling for tender. In practice I prepare my budget in August of each year and may not obtain the stores till as late as January, 17 months afterwards. This actually occurred in 1933-34, when on 11th January 1934 the Chemist reported he had not one pound in stock. Accordingly manufacture and the working up of residues (which is relatively expensive in the use of caustic soda) was partially suspended until the new supplies arrived shortly after. So long as caustic soda remains an imported store, I am of the opinion that it is not safe for me to hold as at 1st April each, less than one year's to one and one quarter year's stock as I do not wish to have a recurrence of the experience of January 1934.

5. On 1st April 1936 I anticipate I shall have a stock of 150,000 lb. and an issue in 1936–37 of about 100,000 (since sales are rising and correspondingly I must raise production). I have redneed my indent for 1936–37 (indent approved by Government in August 1935) to 56,000 and on 1st April 1937, the slight excess will have corrected itself, the balance as I anticipate being round about 100,000 lb. or about one year's stock. The "justification" which audit calls for must be considered in relation to administration and the fact that I had taken steps to correct the excess is not taken notice of. It also errs in that reference is made to an order of Government restricting production of quinine to 18,500 lb. No such order was issued and I consider myself free to manufacture in relation to probable sales.

6. *Paragraph* 11 (*x*) (*a*).—I do not appreciate the need for any change in the present system, especially as I visit the store-room nearly every other day. During my time here quinine to the value of 132 lakhs has been despatched without any shortage. If Government wish to change the system, the appropriate method would be to raise the pay of the clerk in charge of the store from his present low level to that sufficient to provide a suitable fidelity insurance.

7. *Paragraph* 11 (*xi*)—*Motor lorry and electric installation.*—The suggestion to raise the value of the assets cannot be accepted being contrary to commercial practice as well as the instructions issued in the Manual of the Commercial Audit Branch of the Indian Audit Department. I am prepared to support my objection from the balance-sheet of many plantation companies, i.e., companies engaged in similar work to that of this department.

Order—No. 174, Development, dated 6th February 1936.

Recorded.

2. *Paragraph* 3 *of the audit report.*—Orders will issue separately on the question of the need for the creation of a capital reserve against plantation asset proving to be over-valued in the balance-sheet.

3. *Paragraph* 11 (*ii*) *of the audit report.*—The Government agree with the Deputy Director of Agriculture, Cinchona, that the method adopted in Schedule (7) ' B-1 ' is the correct method and direct that this be adopted in all future reports.

4. *Paragraph* 11 (*viii*) *of the audit report.*—The Government consider that the view taken by the Deputy Director is correct.

5. *Paragraph* 11 (*x*) (*a*) *of the audit report.*—The attention of the Deputy Director of Agriculture, Cinchona, is invited to Article 75 of the Madras Financial and Account Code and he is requested to suggest the amount of security that the clerk should be required to deposit.

6. *Paragraph* 11 (*xi*) *of the audit report.*—The Government do not consider it necessary to revalue the assets in question as it would be difficult to assess their exact value and as the amounts are likely to be small.

(By order of the Governor in Council)

C. A. HENDERSON,
Secretary to Government.

To the Deputy Director of Agriculture (Cinchona).
,, Accountant-General (through the Finance Department).
,, Finance Department.
,, Director of Public Health.
,, Local Self-Government Department.
,, Inspector-General of Prisons.
,, Law (General) Department.
,, Secretary, Legislative Council, for placing on the Council table.

THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF THE GOVERNOR OF MADRAS.

Friday, the 20th March 1936.

The House met at eleven of the clock, Mr. President (the Hon. Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI) in the Chair.

PRESENT :

Kurma Venkata Reddi Nayudu, *Kt.*, The Hon. Rai Bahadur Sir.
Pannirselvam, The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T.
Souter, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., I.C.S., The Hon. Sir Charles.
Bracken, C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S., The Hon. Mr. G. T. H.
Raja of Bobbili, K.C.I.E., The Hon. the
Rajan, The Hon. Mr. P. T.
Kumaraswami Reddiyar, The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S.
Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur.
Ahmed Meeran Sahib Bahadur, A. M.
Alamelumangathayaramma, Mrs. K.
Annamalai Chettiyar, Mr. S. A. A.
Appadurai Pillai, Diwan Bahadur A.
Arasu, Mr. V. T.
Basheer Ahmed Sayeed Sahib Bahadur.
Basu Dev, Mr. C.
Dalavoi, Mr. R.
Devadasan, Mr. M.
Dharmalingam Pillai, Rao Sahib V.
Duraiswami Reddiyar, Mr. K. M.
Foulkes, Mr. G. F. F.
Gopalaswami Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur, M.
Halasyam Ayyar, Mr. N.
Hood, Mr. H. M.
Indrayya, Mr. C.
Iswaran Pillai, Mr. I. C.
Jagannatha Raju, Rao Bahadur G.
Jagannatham, Mr. H. M.
Jayaram Nayudu, Rao Sahib C.
Jones, I.C.S., Mr. C. E.
Kesavaramamurti Nayudu, Mr. K.
Khalif-ul-lah Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur P.
Kolanda Reddi, Rai Sahib C.
Koti Reddi, Mr. K.
Krishnayya Choudari, Mr. P. V.
Krishnamurti, Rao Bahadur D.
Kumararaja of Venkatagiri, The.
Madanagopal Nayudu, Mr. R.
Maharaja of Venkatagiri, The.
Manikkavelu Nayakar, Mr. M. A.
Moidoo Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur T. M.
Moses, Mr. P. C.
Muhammad Meera Ravuttar Bahadur, K. P. V. S.
Muniswami Pillai, Rao Sahib V. I.
Nachiyappa Gounder, Mr. K. A.
Nadimuthu Pillai, Mr. A. Pl. N. V.
Nanjappa Bahadur, Rao Bahadur Subadar-Major S. A.
Narasa Reddi, Mr. T.
Narasimhaswami, Rao Sahib D. V.
Narayanan Nambiyar, Mr. V. P.
Natesa Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur C.
Palat, Mr. R. M.
Parthasarathi Ayyangar, Mr. C. R.
Patnaik Mahasayo, Sriman M. G.
Patro, K.C.I.E., Rao Bahadur Sir A. P.
Peddi Raju, Mr. P.
Pocker Sahib Bahadur, B.
Premayya, Mr. G. R.
Rajagopala Pillai, Mr. P. V.
Ramachandra Padayachi, Mr. P. K.
Ramakrishna Reddi, Mr. A.
Ramalingam Chettiyar, Diwan Bahadur T. A.
Ramalinga Reddi, Mr. C.
Ramamurti, Rao Sahib Pandit Ganala.
Raman Menon, Mr. K. P.
Ramaswami Ayyar, Mr. T. S.
Ramaswami Mudaliyar, Mr. V. M.
Rameswara Rao, Mr. G.
Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. A.
Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. G.
Ranganatham, Mr. N.
Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur C. S.
Ratnavelu Thevar, Mr. P.
Reid, Mr. D. M.
Rukmani Lakshmipathi, Mrs. A.
Russell, I.C.S., Mr. T. B.
Sandana Gounder, Mr. I.
Schamnad Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur Mahmud.
Scott Brown, I.C.S., Mr. W.
Sesha Reddi, Rao Bahadur B. P.
Shetty, Mr. A. B.
Simhachalam Pantulu, Mr. G.
Siva Raj, Rao Sahib N.
Smith, Mr. J. M.
Sreshta, Mr. M. S.
Srinivasan, Diwan Bahadur R.
Sriramulu, Mr. G.
Subbarayan, Dr. P.
Subrahmanya Bhatt, Mr. U. C.
Sundara Rao Nayudu, Mr. T.

PRESENT—*cont.*

Syed Tadjuddin Sahib Bahadur, Khan Sahib.
Thangal, Mr. P. M.
Thomas, Mr. Daniel.
Uzielli, C.I.E., I.C.S., Mr. H. R.
Vasudeva Pillai, Mr. V. G.
Venugopal Nayudu, Rao Bahadur R. K.
Wright, Sir William.
Yahya Ali Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur.
Yakub Hasan Sahib Bahadur.
Zamindar of Bodinayakkanur, The.
Zamindar of Kirlampudi, The.
Zamindar of Mirzapuram, The.

I.—SWEARING IN OF NEW MEMBER.

Mr. H. M. Hood, I.C.S., *made the prescribed affirmation of allegiance to the Crown, and then took his seat.*

II.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS

Prices

Commutation rates vis-à-vis *the price of paddy during last year.*

* 987 *Q.*—Mr. A. Pl. N. V. NADIMUTHU PILLAI: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state the commutation rates adopted as per resettlement and the average of the prices of the last year's kist months for paddy less 15 per cent for the merchants' profits in each district in this province?

A.—A statement [a] is annexed. The deduction allowed on account of cartage and merchants' profits is not uniform in all districts. The rate of deduction applicable to the particular district has been adopted in working out the prices for the different months.

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I ask why various rates are allowed for merchants' profits in various districts and whether there is any principle underlying this?"

The Hon. Sir CHARLES SOUTER:—"Circumstances in each district vary and these varying circumstances are taken into consideration in fixing the rates."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I ask whether the Hon. the Revenue Member can give us an idea of the varying circumstances in each district requiring these varying rates?"

The Hon. Sir CHARLES SOUTER:—"I think if the hon. Member reads the reports of the various resettlements he will find reasons given there for each one of them."

a Printed as Appendix I on page 106 infra.

20th March 1936]

Local Self-Government

Proposals for the bifurcation of the district boards of West Godavari, East Godavari, Kistna and Nellore.

* 988 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there are any proposals to bifurcate the district boards of West Godavari, East Godavari, Kistna and Nellore; and if so, what they are in the case of each;

(*b*) at what stage the proposals with regard to each are and when they are likely to be brought into effect;

(*c*) in which of these district boards elections have recently been held; and

(*d*) what the reasons are for not taking up the matter of bifurcation before the new elections in these districts, and what the reasons are for taking them up now?

A.—(*a*) Yes. A copy [a] of the notice issued to the district boards with reference to section 3-A (4) of the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920, is placed on the table.

(*b*) The Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards has been asked to prepare normal budgets of the new boards and their receipt is awaited.

(*c*) West Godavari only.

(*d*) The Government's hands were full with the examination of the first batch of district boards selected for bifurcation.

Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI:—" Sir, before the Government proceed with the bifurcation of more district boards, may I ask whether they have scrutinized the financial position of the boards which have already been bifurcated and found it to be sound? "

Mr. T. B. RUSSELL:—" If the hon. Member wants to know whether the Government have scrutinized the present financial position of the boards already bifurcated, the answer is, ' No '."

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR:—" May I ask whether the boards mentioned in the question have agreed to the bifurcation or objected to the proposal? The order is dated 7th December and only three weeks' time has been allowed for the boards. What replies were received? "

Mr. T. B. RUSSELL:—" I am afraid I must ask for notice of the question."

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[a] Printed as Appendix II on pages 707–708 infra.

[20th March 1936

Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar:—"In view of the policy laid down in the communiqué recently issued by the Government, may I ask whether the Government propose to take up the bifurcation of other district boards as early as possible?"

Mr. T. B. Russell:—"The policy enunciated in the recent communiqué stands."

Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar:—"May I ask what steps the Government have taken to put that policy into force with respect to the other district boards?"

Mr. T. B. Russell:—"*A Special Officer has been appointed, but he has not yet joined.*"

Education

Proposals for the Government taking over the control and management of the Municipal College, Salem.

* 989 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any representations have been received for taking over the control of the Municipal College at Salem, or for the opening of B.A. course in it;

(*b*) if so, what action has been taken thereon;

(*c*) what the amount is of grant paid to that college in each year since 1925 under each of the items, ordinary and capital; and

(*d*) whether requests have been received for increasing the grant and, if so, what orders have been passed thereon?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) No such representations have recently been received.

(*c*) A statement [a] containing the particulars is laid on the table.

(*d*) A representation for increasing the grant to the institution was received in 1925 and the subsidy was raised from Rs. 6,000 to Rs. 7,000 per annum. No further request for increasing the subsidy has been received.

Excise

Applications from the depressed classes during 1930–36 for employment as Excise peons.

* 990 *Q.*—Mr. M. Devadasan: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether applications were received by the Excise Department from the depressed classes in the years 1930 to 1936 for the posts of Excise peons; and

(*b*) if so, how were they disposed of?

A.—The Government have no information.

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[a] Printed as Appendix III on page 708 infra.

Medical Administration

Scheme for the establishment of a home for mentally defective children.

* 991 *Q.*—Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there is any special provision for mentally defective children in the Mental Hospital at Madras;

(*b*) whether the Surgeon-General or the Superintendent has sent any proposals for the establishment of a home for mentally defective children; and

(*c*) at what stage the proposals are, and when the Government propose to take up the scheme?

A.—(*a*) No.

(*b*) & (*c*) Proposals for the establishment of a home for mentally defective children were submitted to Government, but in February 1935 they decided that owing to financial stringency they could not provide funds for the same.

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"May I ask when proposals were received by the Government for the establishment of a home for mentally defective children?"

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"I cannot say exactly when the proposals were received but the answer says that the Government decided in February 1935 that owing to financial stringency they could not provide funds for the same."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"May I ask whether the Hon. Minister realizes that there is great urgency for the establishment of a home so far as young boys and girls numbering probably about 40 in the hospital are concerned, as otherwise they will become contaminated in the company of older men some of whom are criminals and some are in advanced stages of lunacy?"

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"The need for it is admitted, but as the answer says, owing to financial stringency the Government have not been able to establish a home."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"May I ask whether the Hon. Minister will revive this proposal and get something done in the next year?"

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"I cannot make any promise."

[*Note.*—**An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.**]

III.—BUDGET FOR 1936-37—VOTING OF DEMANDS FOR GRANTS.

DEMAND XIII—JAILS—RESERVED—*cont.*

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The discussion on Demand No. XIII will continue."

Diwan Bahadur M. GOPALASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" Mr. President, Sir, I think there is a general concensus of opinion that so far as prisoners in general are concerned—I am not speaking of political prisoners alone, but prisoners as a class—if buttermilk is not supplied to them, it will be considered a hardship. The usual answer, I believe, in this House has been that the supply of buttermilk will entail a large amount of expenditure. Sir, I have taken some pains to find out what the expenditure will be. As a non-official visitor to jails which the Government have been pleased to appoint me as, I have visited several jails and I have found that there is a universal desire for buttermilk not merely as a matter of luxury but as a matter of necessity. I have also found from an examination of the financial aspect of the matter that it will not be very very costly at all. As a matter of fact all that is necessary would be—it is not curd that they want—one seer of curd mixed with a lot of water for 500 prisoners. It will be more than enough for 500 prisoners. Even if this is not enough, two seers of curd mixed with a sufficient quantity of water will be enough for the prisoners, especially in my part of the country. I think they will be certainly satisfied with it, because they have been accustomed to it. My hon. Friend to my left thinks that it will not be enough and that it is too small. Even supposing that we have to take three seers, I think the cost will not be very much. Taking the jail population as a whole I think the cost will not be very much. Therefore I would request the Government to re-examine the question and see whether this suggestion of ours cannot be given effect to. Sir, in almost all the jails there are not only cows maintained but also buffaloes. We are not asking for the curd or buttermilk of cows but only for the buttermilk of buffaloes and in all the jails buffaloes are maintained. They are maintained not only for the purpose of milk but also for other purposes. The jails grow their own fodder also and therefore I do not think there will be any extra cost involved at all and even if some extra cost is involved, I think it will be very very small. I do not think it will cost very much to the Government. After all this is a matter where the prisoners as a class will be very pleased, because it is necessary for them not only from a sanitary point of view, but also as a necessity. The Hon. the Law Member as an Indian, especially as an Indian of very long experience, knows that buttermilk forms part of the diet of all classes. There is no class not accustomed to buttermilk and if they are deprived of buttermilk it will be a very serious hardship to them. If necessary I think the Government may reduce certain other items of diet so that it may not affect their finances. I therefore earnestly request the Hon. the Law Member—and I do so

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with all the emphasis that I can command—that he may kindly devote his attention to this matter for which we have been agitating and crying hoarse for a long time. After all, it is a very small matter and I do not think it is right that the Government should deny this.

" There is one other thing which I want to mention. I have been telling hon. Members that so far as Bellary is concerned, though it was once the seat of Vijayanagar Empire and had its days of glory, what we at present have is plenty of jails. So far as one of these jails, the Wellesley Sanatorium is concerned, it is splendidly equipped: it has recently got an X-ray installation also. I believe it is catering to the tuberculosis patients among the jail population. Some of the prisoners who are there are suffering from tuberculosis and some of my hon. Friends have been pleading that they should be released. My hon. Friends will pardon me if I say that by doing so, they will be doing a dis-service to those prisoners, because if they are there, they have every chance of being cured or at least for the time being getting some relief which they cannot get in their homes; because, as you know, Sir, Bellary has a climate which is most suitable for consumptives and the treatment that is given there is excellent. In this connexion, may I also submit, Sir, although it may not be perfectly relevant, that the prisoners who have been convicted and who certainly do not deserve all this kind of excellent treatment, if they have got such facilities for treatment, the free citizens of the locality also should have the advantage of the treatment given in the Wellesley Sanatorium? But they are not allowed to have that advantage. I therefore take this opportunity of appealing to the Hon. the Law Member to see his way to allow the free citizens of the place to take advantage of the facilities offered by the institution. If he does that, I believe it will be one of the best ways in which relief could be given to free citizens. There has been agitation here, there and everywhere that there should be a sanatorium for tuberculosis patients; they have been agitating for such a sanatorium either at St. Thomas Mount or at Pallavaram. I think the ideal place will be Bellary. Now that we have the Wellesley Sanatorium at Bellary, if the Government would accept my suggestion and allow not only the free citizens of Bellary but others also who come to Bellary, they can take advantage of the privileges that are afforded in that excellent institution.

11-1 a.

" One more suggestion which I have to make is this. So far as the under-trial prisoners are concerned, I think their position at present is not very satisfactory. Not only in the Bellary district but also in the adjoining districts I find that the place where they are detained is very bad. The circumstances under which they are detained are not satisfactory. I hope the Hon. the Law Member will kindly give his attention to these matters. These are the three points with which I wanted to deal at this stage."

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan :—" Mr. President, Sir, if I rise to speak anything, it is to remind the Government of the assurance a previous Member of Government in charge of this portfolio gave to this Council,

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viz., that a committee of enquiry would be appointed to go into the question of revising the Jail Manual and to find out whether any reform could be carried out in the manner in which jails are maintained in the Province. The Hon. the Law Member knows very well that the Jail Manual is old and there has been a demand every year to revise and bring it up to date. It is no doubt true that the Government itself has been making necessary alterations to the Jail Manual wherever it has been found to be defective and wherever a change is necessary. Those changes were found to be necessary from the point of view of the Government. But the constitution of a committee of enquiry composed of some non-officials also is necessary in order to bring about a change in the administration of this department in order that it might be brought up to date. I believe that in every part of the world such a change has taken place and the administration of jails has been brought up to date. Unfortunately in our country we are still working under a very old constitution. The first and foremost thing which the Government will have to do is to bring about a change in the angle of vision. In the olden days a criminal or offender was sent to jail more as a punishment for the offence he committed rather than to reform him. I believe the attitude in modern times is changing; people believe that an offender should not be confined in a jail for a long or a short period as a punishment for the offence he has committed. It ought to be the policy of the Government responsible for the administration of jails to see that these unfortunate persons who are victims of circumstances in many cases are not punished in a vindictive spirit by the jail authorities but that they should be afforded facilities to reform themselves, even during the period when they are in the jail. That I think should be the attitude of the Government in the administration of this department.

" Even in the matter of giving food to the prisoners, it looks as if the Government wants to punish them instead of helping them to become better men. They are treated as offenders who do not deserve any better treatment than what is now given them. The kind of food that is given them is not very satisfactory. In some cases, the food that is given them cannot be eaten by human beings. The answer that was given to a question with regard to the amenities that should be given to them is: that they are after all criminals; they are offenders and they do not deserve better; the kind of food that is given them is more than what they deserve. That is the answer that is given by the Government and that is the attitude of the Government. The Government's attitude is punitive and not reformative. The prisoners are after all a section of our community; they ought not to be treated as untouchables or as men belonging to a different race altogether. They should be treated as human beings and the fact that they are in most cases victims of circumstances rather than deliberate offenders ought to be taken into consideration.

" The other point which I wish to bring to the notice of the Government is this. The Discharged Prisoners' Aid Society which has been trying to do its best to help the prisoners who are discharged from the

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jails has not been given such support as the Government should give to such a useful institution. The small pittance of grant that is given to it from year to year is not sufficient to give effect to some of the objects which the society has in view. Even if the Government is not prepared to take such measures in the jail itself to gradually help these unfortunate people to get out of their bad habits or circumstances or not to commit offences over again, it can at least help this Society which is working in that direction. The Government itself should take steps to see that these prisoners are reformed even during the period of incarceration by isolating the better class of them from the worst offenders and by giving religious and general education to those who are not educated. The Discharged Prisoners' Aid Society looks after these prisoners after they come out of the jail. The Society is doing what the Government ought to do. The Society has taken upon itself the responsibility of carrying out what exactly is the legitimate duty of the Government. The Government should therefore help this Society as much as possible.

"With regard to the question of affording facilities for these unfortunate persons to reform themselves, I think it is necessary to introduce the system of delivering religious lectures in the jails, at least once a week, by people belonging to various religions. A Muslim Moulvi can be asked to deliver lectures to Muhammadan convicts on morality and religion; Hindu Pandits can be asked to deliver such lectures to Hindu prisoners and Christian missionaries to Christian convicts. It is by these means that you will help them to reform themselves instead of going out of jail and then committing offences again, and then going back to the jail. The civilization of the Government is judged to a certain extent by the condition in the jails and by the way in which the Government administers jails. If the Government is civilized, the conditions in the jail also ought to correspond to the civilization of the Government and of the people of the country. There must be that corresponding equality between the two. As the people begin to advance, become more civilized and educated, that atmosphere should prevail even in the jail administration. There is a great deal of disparity between the jail administration and the civilization of the Government in our province. We are supposed to be civilized people; our Government also is a civilized Government. But we do not find the corresponding atmosphere in the administration of jails. I hope the Government will bear this point in mind and introduce reforms which will bring about the desired consummation. There are several occasions, especially religious occasions, when the Government should afford facilities to prisoners of different denominations to discharge their religious duties according to their rites. Even in the matter of food, such food as is required to be given on such occasions should be given. For instance during the month of Ramzan, we have been asking the Government to give rice diet to Muslim prisoners, so that they can, without much difficulty, fast and perform their religious rites. In that direction also, reform is necessary. In answer to a question, the Hon. the

Law Member said that he could not make any difference between one prisoner and another. I submit that that is not the right attitude. If you consider the question from the point of view of reforming the prisoner and not punishing him, all these questions of distinction will not arise. The moment the Government changes its attitude with regard to the treatment of the prisoner, the moment the Government feels that when once the prisoner comes into a jail he is no longer a criminal but an inmate of a dormitory or hostel, the moment the Government thinks that it is its duty to reform the prisoner, that moment the Government would think it necessary to afford him facilities to reform himself. If you give the prisoner the food which he has to take on religious occasions, you will enable him to reform himself. Perhaps the rules will have to be changed in this matter. But since the Muhammadan prisoners and Muhammadan Members in this Council have been asking for this change, there ought to be no difficulty for the Government to introduce it. By doing so, the Hon. the Law Member need not think
11-30 a.m. that he is favouring one community as against the other. No community, much less the Muhammadan community wants any special treatment. What they want is that they should be given food, in order to enable them to keep fasts and to go through their religious observances. That is all.

" These are some of the remarks that I thought it necessary to make, so that the Government may consider them and give effect to such of the suggestions as I have made. But the first thing I would like to impress upon the Hon. the Law Member is that he should appoint a committee of enquiry consisting mostly of non-official members of this House and some outsiders to go into the question of revising the rules in order to bring the administration of this department up to date."

* Mr. N. Halasyam Ayyar :—" With your permission, Mr. President, I wish to address the Council in Tamil, if that is allowable. If that is not allowable, then I shall speak in English."

* The Hon. the President :—" The hon. Member must be conversant by this time with the Madras Legislative Council Rules. He is fluent in English in which he has addressed the House previously. He may speak in that language now."

* Mr. N. Halasyam Ayyar :—" Mr. President, Sir, it will be only a truism to say that the present prison administration in this province is highly antiquated and requires drastic and radical changes. Times out of number the attention of the Government has been drawn to the bad food that is being supplied to the prisoners, the want of adequate water-supply in prisons, the bad accommodation in the prisons especially in the matter of cell arrangements and also the lack of latrine facilities.

" As regards the ordinary prisoners, their classification into A, B and C class has not in the least helped towards the improvement of their condition within the jails. The Government seem to have promised two or three years back that they would appoint a committee to

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go into the defective condition of the present system of prison administration. But no steps seem to have been taken in pursuance of that promise. If I desire to speak on this motion, it is only with a view to draw the attention of the Government to the health of prisoners who are now lying in the Bellary jail.

"In reply to a question that was put by me, the Hon. the Law Member was pleased to state that the conspiracy case prisoners were not political prisoners. We are not able to find either in the Jail Manual or any other book any authority for the distinction that is sought to be made between political prisoners and prisoners belonging to other categories. What is sought to be urged is a humane treatment of the prisoners. For instance, one Narayanan Nambiyar is said to be suffering from deodenal ulcer, and he was originally classified under class B; but from class B he was later on reduced to class C. The speaker was of opinion that this transfer to C class was probably the cause of this illness. I wish to draw attention to the fact that the transfer of prisoners from one class to another without due regard to their conditions of health and their life outside is responsible for the ailments they are suffering from. Almost all conspiracy case prisoners have been suffering from some sort of sickness or other. Gopala Sastri was one of the prisoners who suffered from chronic stomach complaint; he seems to have even attempted suicide on account of the unbearableness of the disease. Subsequently, of course, it is well known to the members of this House that he was transferred to the General Hospital where he was operated on and met with unfortunate death. As regards the health of Joseph, the Hon. Member was pleased to state that no doubt he was suffering from tuberculosis, that he had developed affection in both the lungs, that he had been spitting blood previously but that he was not then spitting blood, and that his condition could not be considered to be serious. What I urge is that the Hon. Member must lay aside for the present all the rules and regulations that we find in the Jail Manual and other books, and take into consideration only the seriousness of the disease from which a prisoner is suffering and take steps to see if he cannot be released. If he is not released, it is pretty sure that his case will be similar to that of Pratap Narayan Bajpai who was released just a day prior to his death in 1924. He was a political prisoner and was convicted during the non-co-operation days twice; he was suffering from advanced consumption; the attention of Government was drawn to the serious state of the prisoner; and he was released just a day prior to his death. Sir, consumption is such a grave disease that unless the prisoner's mental and physical comforts are attended to, the prisoner will certainly meet with death. Therefore, I wish to urge on the attention of Hon. the Law Member to take such steps as he can possibly do for the release of Mr. Joseph.

"Again, there is no basis for the classification as to who are political prisoners and who are not political prisoners. The general treatment of all prisoners must proceed upon civilized lines. While in other countries demand is made for Probation Acts, parol and other civilized

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kinds of treatment, based on reformatory lines, in India alone this antiquated system still continues; and except a few changes in regard to administrative details, nothing substantial has been done towards prison reform, notwithstanding the labours of Diwan Bahadur Kesava Pillai and others who in their days of stalwart agitation were pressing for prison reform. The prison still continues to be in the same state as it used to be before. No doubt, Sir, it is gratifying to note from the administration report for 1934–35 that the number of punishments for prison offences has become less, but corporal punishment is still being resorted to. Corporal punishment, I need not say, is such a barbaric form of punishment that all countries have abolished it. It is not therefore necessary for me to add anything more to urge that steps should be taken to completely abolish corporal punishment. Within the prison doors, many kinds of punishment are awarded—bar fetters, solitary confinement, etc.—to the prisoners; and the ordinary prisoner —not to speak of political prisoners who are said to be agitators—suffers any amount of hardship within the jail walls and tales of what happen within the prison walls never see the light of day. It is said that dead man told no tales; but even living men inside jails could tell no tales. Those hardships are accentuated by the fact that there are two kinds of warders within the prison walls, the ordinary warder and the convict warder. The convict warder thinks that he belongs to a privileged class, because he gets the favour of the jailor or the superintendent; he tyrannises over the other prisoners. So the convict warder system should be abolished, and the sooner it is done the better will it be for all classes of prisoners. Unless there is a thorough and radical change in the present system, there is no hope. While on the one hand the Government draw the attention of the Members of this House to the fact that efficiency and contentment in the services must be maintained and while the recommendations of the Jails Committee regarding increase of establishment have been approved by the Government and given effect to, the Government do not pay any heed to this question at all. Whenever the land revenue question is taken up or the excise question is taken up, the Government always point out that efficiency must be maintained at any cost and therefore there could be no cut in salaries, but they consistently and uniformly ignore the welfare of the people who are within the prison walls. It is well known to all that most of those who are within the prison walls are not habitually criminally minded. Many of them are casual offenders. After all, Sir, the number of people who are convicted for moral turpitude is much less, as compared to the other kinds of offenders; and even there, it is due to the unfortunate conditions of the present state of society. I therefore urge, Sir, that the present system of prison administration should be completely changed. I remember that two or three years ago on the floor of this House, the then Law Member gave a promise that he would appoint a committee to go into the conditions prevailing in prisons; that promise has not yet been fulfilled. I have intervened in this debate only to draw attention to the fact that that promise should be fulfilled now. It has been pointed out by no less

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a person than Mahatma Gandhi that the present prison system is almost, if not entirely, devoid of humanity. With that, I bring my remarks to a close."

* Khan Bahadur MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB Bahadur:—"Sir, while emphasising the necessity for giving the necessary comforts to prisoners, I strongly deprecate the present practice of the warders taking several things from outside the jails to be given to the prisoners, perhaps without the knowledge of the jail authorities. Several things that are prohibited from being taken into the jails are being supplied to the convicts. It is a very dangerous practice; sometimes even poisonous things may be taken in. This matter has been, I think, brought to the notice of the Law Member previously. The representations of Muslims in the jail service is very poor. I am one of those who think that proper encouragement should be given to all communities to play an equal part in the administration of the country.

"Another thing I would like to lay stress upon is this: There are still some State prisoners, that is, some Mappillas detained as State prisoners for supposed offences of which neither they nor anybody else are aware of. While detaining these people they have not been told for what offence they were detained and while they were sent out they were not told why they were sent out. Nor has any enquiry been held or investigation made as to the conduct of these prisoners who are detained in far-off places at the expense of the rate-payers, causing at the same time enormous inconvenience to their wives and children.

"Then I want to know what has been done by the Hon. the Law Member for the repeal of the antiquated and offensive Act known as the Moplah Outrages Act. We made a request to him last year on this point and we thought he would take some steps. This Act serves no useful purpose except that it wounds the self-respect of the Muslims. It is a disgrace, not only to the Muslim community but to the whole nation, that such a law should continue to remain on the Statute Book. I thought the Hon. the Law Member would have taken some steps 11-45 to see that this offensive law is repealed. It can be done by simply a.m. issuing a notification terminating its operation in Malabar. Here, I may point out that there are so many other laws, repressive and others, by which law and order can be maintained without having recourse to this particular, offensive and disgraceful law. After all, Sir, ever since its enactment it has not been or been very little made use of; and I should like to know from the Hon. the Law Member how many times during the last 25 years of its existence, the Government has had occasion to enforce it. When such is the case, why not repeal this Act and give contentment and remove the cause of much disaffection and resentment among the people. With these words, Sir, I support the motion."

* The Hon. Sir K. V. REDDI NAYUDU:—"Mr. President, Sir, though the motion as worded is intended for a particular purpose, I find that much field has been traversed by hon. Members. Of course, the object

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of the motion is to criticize policy but they have done their best to point out various aspects and I shall be very glad indeed to reply to them to the best of my ability. My Friend, Mr. Shetty, told us a lot about modern improvements in various countries and others who followed him were also telling us that we are not in touch with modern developments in jail policy. But I should think, Sir, that considering the present state of our country, the prison policy of our Government cannot be said to be either uncivilized or inhuman as has been suggested by one hon. Member of the Council. The policy of the Government with regard to the administration of jails is to reform the convicts, so that when they are released from jail they may lead a peaceful and industrious life. Adult convicts are segregated from adolescents and children, male convicts from females, and habituals from casuals. There are, for instance, separate jails for habituals and casuals, special jails for women, Borstal schools and certified schools, junior and senior for the juvenile offenders. In the jails, no undue interference with religious or caste prejudices of prisoners is permitted. Religious and moral lectures to all convicts are allowed on condition that no proselytising is carried on under the cloak of religious or moral instruction. Lecturers should confine their attention to the prisoners of their own faith, and that is a point which is conceded by my hon. Friend, Mr. Hameed Khan. Every jail is supplied with a certain number of books in English, and occasionally in the vernacular of the district in which the jail is. Reading is permitted up to a certain hour in the evening, that is till 9-30; educational facilities are provided in jails for such of the prisoners as are capable of being benefited thereby; there is a duly recognized elementary school in each jail; newspapers are allowed up to a limited extent, and to people who do not know how to read, a journal called the *Howard Journal* is read out to them as it comes out of the press. The main object of prison labour is the reformation of the prisoner. The charge that it is meant entirely as a punishment, that it should not be vindictive and so on and so forth, is not at all justified under the existing system in our province. The main consideration is to seek to do all we possibly can to reform the man so that when he is released he might go out and live as a peaceful and law-abiding citizen. The charges made are: that nothing is being done in these jails, the prisoners there are only incarcerated by way of punishment, nobody cares for religion or education; nobody cares for their food, and that everything is wrong. I beg to submit that such sweeping charges do not stand the test of examination for a single minute. Several industries are taught in jails—carpentry, tailoring, weaving, printing, shoe-making and and things like that—so that even for people who are not accustomed to these trades while they were outside the prison, these things are taught with the object of seeing that they utilize the knowledge they gain in jails in eking out their livelihood for themselves when they become freemen.

"There is the Discharged Prisoners' Aid Society to which reference has been made. It may be that the grant that is made to this body is not as much as my friend would desire, but may I in my turn

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ask my hon. Friend who was so very liberal in his criticism of the Government whether it is not also the duty of the public to come to the aid of these prisoners and whether it is not also as much the duty of the citizens and public men who have been placed by good fortune in very good places and who are rich and influential and who can do much more than what the Government alone could do to come to the aid of these prisoners. I do not, in the least, deny the responsibilities of the Government in this matter, but to criticize the Government without recognizing the responsibilities of the speakers themselves and others that stand in their position and of the public in general, is in my opinion not fair.

" Now, Sir, I shall proceed with the other points raised, namely, the question of policy regarding whipping, food, etc. I should like specially to refer to the question raised about the health of the prisoners and the food problem. Here again, Sir, the criticism, I must state, is unfair. Diet scales include items like cheese and milk. That is scale A. Scale B includes items like ghee, butter-milk or curd and milk. Scale C which is intended for the ordinary ' C ' class prisoners does not include butter-milk. The hospital diet for this class of prisoners includes items like milk, butter and ghee, but the diet of individual prisoners may be modified on the recommendation of the medical officer of the jail. In other words, even those who are not entitled according to their classification to any particular kind of food, would be given that food if the doctor thinks that it would be necessary in the interest of the health of the prisoner. The question of supplying butter-milk, of course for the ' C ' class prisoners, was for some time past under the consideration of this House and of the Government. The question of supplying butter-milk to ' C ' class prisoners has been considered by Government and I should have been very glad indeed if something could be done in that direction, but it has been estimated that the cost of supplying butter-milk to these prisoners would come to Rs. 1,06,500 per year (Diwan Bahadur T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar: What is the rate per prisoner?) At the rate of 2 pies per head, i.e., one-sixth of an anna. At that rate it would come to about a lakh of rupees. The only trouble is, how to find this money. If hon. Members are prepared to show me the source from which this money could be found . . . (Diwan Bahadur T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar: ' By readjustment.') On that point, we have had expert opinion and it is this: butter-milk if given at all should be given as extra and not by reducing some other articles of food. Any amount of butter-milk will not by itself greatly improve nutritional value. It is more of digestive and physiological value rather than nutritive. Therefore, it will not do to reduce diet in any other respect and substitute this in its place.

" On the point of the health of the prisoners, I should like to quote certain figures which will place beyond all reasonable doubt that the food that is being given in the jails to prisoners is certainly not as bad as is represented to be by some hon. Members here. On the question

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of the diet supplied to prisoners, the best and the suitable answer will be found from the condition of the prisoners who are discharged from jails. The following statement gives figures for the last three years. In the year 1932, the percentage of prisoners who gained weight is 74·74, so that three-fourths of the prisoners that left the jails found themselves in an increased weight, and even more weight than what they had when they entered the jails. The percentage of prisoners who remained stationary, that is, without increasing or decreasing in weight was only 19·5; while the percentage of prisoners who lost weight was only 5·35. The corresponding figures for 1933 are 73·90, 19·26 and 6·84. Similarly in 1934 the percentage of prisoners who gained weight was over 70. I do not know, Mr. President, whether there can be a better test than this, that people who have been supposed to be ill-treated, vindictively ill-treated, and not given food that ought to be given, found themselves increased in their weight, while perhaps if they had remained outside, they would have lost some of their weight.

12 noon. "Now, Sir, I shall refer to the particular point raised by my hon. Friend, Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan. It was repeated by Mr. Halasyam Ayyar that my distinguished predecessor made a promise in this Council that he would enquire into the question of revising the rules and has promised to appoint a committee."

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan:—"I never said he made a promise. I said he gave an assurance."

* The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu:—"I do not know where the distinction is between a promise and an assurance. This blind following without in the least ascertaining whether it is correct or not I do not wish to characterise. This is what happened. This is what my friend stated. I have got the speeches of 1933 and 1931. Here is the alleged promise. 'With regard to that on the present occasion and the previous occasions some hon. Members have recommended the appointment of a committee to consider the amendment of the Jail Manual. With regard to that I promised two years ago that Government would consider the matter.' Considering the matter is quite different from appointing a committee. That is number one. Mr. Pocker asked whether the Government considered the matter and what was the result. Government did consider the matter and after careful consideration of all the facts pertaining to it they came to the conclusion that it was not necessary to appoint a committee. (Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan: 'What the present Law Member is doing remains to be seen') I do not go anything more than what my hon. Friend stated before. We are strict adherents to truth. That is so far as the promise is concerned. I believe I have replied to all the charges made with regard to pay, about water-supply, latrines, and classification of prisoners into 'A,' 'B' and 'C.' Then my hon. Friend referred to Narayanan Nambiyar. I do not know who this gentleman is. Will the hon. Member be pleased to let me know who this gentleman is."

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Mr. N. Halasyam Ayyar:—"He is a Madras conspiracy case prisoner confined in jail. He was placed in 'B' class but subsequently reduced to 'C' class. He is suffering from duodenal ulcer. Not this Narayanan Nambiyar."

* The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu:—"As regards these Madras conspiracy prisoners I am constrained to remark that the hon. Members who have been putting all these questions are doing so without sufficient basis. In the case of one prisoner who interested hon. Members of the Congress, their leader wrote to me about a particular prisoner—I do not know if he is of that category of Madras conspiracy prisoners, though I may tell you that there is no such thing as political prisoners in the Jail Manual or jail rules—and I referred it to the Chief Secretary and the Chief Secretary caused enquiries to be made. The result was found to be that the information given by the hon. Member was absolutely incorrect, so much so when that was mentioned to him in a letter he clearly told us, 'this is a case where rumour is fiction.' I ask hon. Members not to be carried away by fictions brought to their notice. If he found that he is in a precarious condition I will be very glad to give all consideration. Because of the inconvenience and trouble in making enquiries, getting information, writing to officers, I think, Sir, hon. Members must give greater . . ."

Mr. N. Halasyam Ayyar:—"It applies to others. It does not concern me. Joseph is suffering from consumption. That will show my question is not based upon fiction or incorrect information. With regard to Narayanan Nambiyar I was clear enough to tell him that Narayanan Nambiyar was reduced from 'B' class to 'C' class and it is possible his case is a case of . . ."

* The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu:—"I am replying to the whole class. In the case of Joseph it is no doubt true that he was suffering from tuberculosis. It does not mean that every consumption prisoner should be released. As has been pointed out by my friend, Mr. Gopalaswami Mudaliyar, they are now in the best of jails and the best of sanatoriums where one can go to the length of asking permission for admitting men. Is the hon. Member sure that if he comes out of the jail he would be better, and cured, that he would have better conveniences and better treatment? It is so natural to ask the Government because a man is ill therefore he ought to be released. These pleas of illness are devices which hon. Members are expected to advance with greater care and attention instead of pressing that men should be released. There have been cases where I know the lady member will bear me out when I say that she brought to my notice that a particular prisoner should be released and when enquiry showed that that prisoner was ill I did release him. In cases like these simply because a man is suffering from pulmonary disease and simply because other people die it cannot be assumed or concluded that no cases can be cured. Nor would Government like to see people die. It is their wish to see that they are cured as far as possible and every attempt would

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be made in that direction. With reference to Joseph it is a very unfair criticism because they have taken particular care. I sent a wire to the superintendent. I got a reply and gave the answer. Now comes this criticism. What is the fault of the Government? Simply because it is reported to hon. Members that a particular prisoner is ill Government must at once release him. How are we to be sure? In many cases these pleas are mere devices to get out of jail. After all our advisers are the doctors. I think we cannot base our conclusions upon the personal experience and personal knowledge even of the members themselves. If they give their opinion or experience it will certainly have greater weight. Unnecessarily we have got into this matter. (A voice: With some amount of heat.) When undue charges are levelled, when implications are made, certain amount of heat is necessary in the hope that things will be better and more reasonableness will prevail. We are told, Sir, that it is inhuman and you expect the Government to keep quiet and slowly reply. That is evidently what is expected from my friend. Mr. President, Sir, I do not know whether it would be necessary to go through the other points raised. I would only say this. (Voice: What about the Mappilla Outrages Act?) I have got this note just as regards the Mappilla Outrages Act. The question of repealing it had been considered last year with the District Magistrate of Malabar and it was decided to retain the Act. The Act has not been applied to any person from 1928 or 1929. There is only one person under the Act. Any way the decision has been taken. But if still hon. Members want I have no objection to have it examined."

The cut motion [a] was put and lost.

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XIV—POLICE—RESERVED.

* The Hon. Mr. A. T. PANNIRSELVAM:—" On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor I move—

'*that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs.* 1,46,94,300 *under Demand XIV—Police—Reserved*'."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—" I am afraid talking across the benches has become too frequent to be appreciated."

* Diwan Bahadur A. APPADURAI PILLAI:—" I move—

'*to reduce the allotment of Rs.* 25,900 *for Presidency Police—Superintendence—Pay of officers by Rs.* 100.'

" Sir, I wish to bring to the notice of the hon. Member in charge of the police portfolio some of the irregularities noticeable in the city. One important thing is the seizure of cycles in the Madras City. I do not know why if the licence-fee is not paid the police has to interfere in the matter. It is a daily sight in the city. A number of sergeants

[a] To reduce the allotment of Rs. 34,700 for jails—Superintendence—Pay and allowances of officers and establishments by Rs. 100.

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and police constables standing in the corners of roads and streets go on seizing unlicensed bicycles. These cycles are then thrown pell-mell in a lorry and are taken away to the Corporation premises. It is then advertised in the papers that at a particular time and station the unclaimed cycles will be sold in auction. Cycles costing Rs. 30 or Rs. 40 are knocked down for a nominal sum of Rs. 2 and Rs. 3. That seems to be a very annoying procedure of collecting cycle-tax. Why should police interfere in this matter to such an extent as to draw public attention is what I cannot understand. This is a licence-fee payable to the Corporation. If a notice is served and if the cycle owners do not pay the tax the Corporation may take steps and seize the cycle and keep them until payment is made. We know Madras is a city of distances and we have been telling the workmen to go and reside outside the city in a suburb. There are ordinary labourers, wage earners and low paid clerks who have got to come all the way to Madras City and work in various offices and stores. They have necessarily to use cycles 12-
to go to their places of work. If unfortunately a cyclist has not paid I
the half-yearly tax, the policemen pounce on him, get hold of his cycle and deprive him of the means of transport. Considering the matter from that point of view, this practice on the part either of the police at the instance of the Corporation of Madras or of any other authority, seems extremely harsh. Again some sort of regard has to be shown in respect of motor cycles and motor cars. About eight days of grace are allowed for the payment of the quarterly tax, and on the particular day when the tax becomes due, the police stop the car and book the owner for non-payment and several have suffered, Sir, in this respect. We generally forget the due date. We have to attend to business of various kinds; we forget unfortunately the day on which the quarterly tax falls due. The constable stretches his hand across the car, notes down the number of car, and we are asked to go to the police station to clear ourselves from the fear of prosecution. We know that the tax has to be paid, and we are ready to pay it. If it is not paid in time, it is not on account of unwillingness on our part or wilful default, and in such circumstances, I do not know how the detention of the car or the prosecution of the owner is justified. Sir, the quarterly tax is very annoying, and if the police take the tax yearly or half-yearly, it would be much better and it will save a great deal of unnecessary vexation. Most car-owners feel that they are booked mercilessly for the mere fact that the period has expired. I think a certain amount of consideration should be shown to the citizens of Madras in the matter of levying the motor-tax.

"There is one other little point that I would like to bring to the notice of the Hon. the Home Member, and that is the practice under the traffic rules. I find that if one lamp goes out in a rickshaw, even though the second lamp burns the man is taken to the police station and booked. I happened to go in a rickshaw some two months ago as my car got stuck up on the road. A few yards from the police station, one of the lamps of the rickshaw went out, and I stopped the rickshaw

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and asked the man to relight the lamp. When I found he was not able to do it owing to heavy winds, I told him that I would go home and send him a lantern. The moment I left he was charged for pulling the rickshaw without the second lamp burning. I went to the police station and explained to the police constable on duty that it was not a case of neglect on the part of the rickshaw man but that it was due to an act of God, because the light was blown out on account of heavy wind. All the same, he was charged, and I had to pay 4 annas in the way of fine. It is well and good that a rickshaw should have the two lamps burning all the time till the journey is completed. But the police constables and officers should exercise a certain amount of discretion in seeing whether the lamp was not purposely lighted or whether it went out accidentally. I believe in a city like Madras which is very well lighted with electricity, even one lamp for a rickshaw ought to be enough. I can understand the rickshaw man being charged, when negligently he allows the lamp to go out. But in a case of this kind when unfortunately the lamp goes out, owing to heavy gale a matter beyond the control of the rickshaw man it is unfair to book him."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"If the hon. Member can avoid repetitions, he would be able to cover more points in a lesser amount of time."

* Diwan Bahadur A. APPADURAI PILLAI:—"This is a matter, Sir, that I wished to bring to the notice of the Hon. the Home Member. The next point is one which my Hon. Friend, Diwan Bahadur R. Srinivasan desires to raise, regarding the treatment of a man arrested by the police. When a man charged with theft or some other offence is taken to the police station, the practice is to give him a beating in order to extract a confession from him. Well, Sir, I thought the practice has largely died out, but it seems to prevail still to a certain extent in the city. If on enquiry it is found that the practice prevails to any extent, it is better that it is put an end to at once.

"I shall just say one word in regard to the way in which the police constables behave. The police constables are not decently paid so as to keep them from the temptation of receiving illicit gratifications, perquisites and small presents from the cart-owners and hand-cart pullers: this practice seems to prevail even now. There is complaint that owners of bullock-carts, hand-carts and the like coming from Aminjikarai, carrying loads of sand, vegetables or straw are held up by the policeman, for the supposed offence of wrong side, stopping at wrong places, etc. It is strange in these days that such practice should go on in a city like Madras. I hope proper steps will be taken to see that the police constables do not harass the people for not having a second light or for parking the cart in an objectionable place and so on.

"There is one other point I wish to raise, and that is the dangerous manner in which motor buses and motor lorries are driven in the City of Madras. The moment the lorry or the bus passes the police station,

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off it goes at a tremendous break-neck speed, and it will be a sight to see these lorries and buses dashing along the road without caring for the safety of the people passing along the road. I have very often had experience of lorries and buses brushing by my side. The drivers take care to drive slowly at the scheduled speed so long as they are near the police station; the moment they pass the police station, and do not find any police constable in sight, they go off at a terrific rate of speed. I believe it was not the case when higher grade police officers were often checking the speed limit of these buses. Now there seems to be some relaxation in this direction. I would very much like to invite the attention of the Hon. the Home Member to the necessity of checking the terrific rate at which lorries and buses are being driven in the city."

* Mr. G. F. F. Foulkes:—" Mr. President, Sir, I am anxious to *use this opportunity of drawing your attention to a matter* which is assuming an increasing importance and constitutes a problem which is met with everywhere throughout this Presidency. I refer, Sir, to the subject of the control of traffic on the roads of this Presidency.

" I hope I shall not seem to be trying to be academic if I say that one of the chief functions of any Government is to insure safety and reasonable amenity for every person who uses the public roads. And, I submit that it is of little use merely to make laws for regulating traffic at a time when the people of this province are in the transition stage of reconciling the bullock-cart and the automatic vehicle. It is essential that a Government should follow this up by undertaking the control—and a strict control—of all the various kinds of traffic using the roads.

" So far as control goes, there is the kind of control necessary in urban areas, and there is the control required on country roads. Similarly, I think that traffic falls under two major heads, namely, specialized forms of traffic and general traffic. As an example of a specialized form of traffic, I would instance the heavy lorries which have begun to make their appearance on the trunk road between Vaniyambadi and 12-30 intermediate places and Madras. Some of these vehicles, at present, p.m travel at a speed of 35 miles per hour touching 40 miles per hour at times. And I adduce these figures not as the result of guess-work but as the result of careful and deliberate measurement of the actual speeds to which they attain.

" I do not propose to occupy your time, Sir, by entering into details regarding the damage done to the roads by such speeding of heavy vehicles. But I would make one remark in this connexion and that is that with the appearance of these heavy over-driven vehicles it is no longer true to say that a bullock-cart does more harm to a road surface than does an automobile. (A voice: Hear, hear.). I would also emphasize the danger to which the public is exposed. Especially is this the case on roads such as those in North Arcot and other districts where the roads are built on embankments for miles on end and the heavy lorry must keep on the middle of the roadway, because of the danger to itself if it moves off the central metalled ribbon.

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" As an example of the necessity for control of general traffic, I would instance such lengths of road as that from Salem to Omalur and beyond where the road branches into three separate systems. Here, there is no control of traffic at all. And the number of vehicles of all kinds are increasing yearly in spite of the hard times which we have been experiencing.

" On various occasions I have had the advantage of discussing with knowledgeable persons, the growing necessity for control of the traffic and the best method of obtaining a real control.

" And the first step necessary is to equip the police not only with the power but to provide them with adequate and effective means of exercising control which, at present, they have not got.

" I have also found general agreement that the most feasible way of exercising control on country roads is by means of mobile patrols. And I make the suggestion that each patrol should be a unit of one head constable, one senior constable, and one junior constable mounted on a motor cycle, pillion and side car with, if necessary, a light weather-proof trailer. Such a unit car effectively covers 50 miles in a day and, on this basis, one patrol will be sufficient for each district.

" In the case of towns, it has already been proved that a pedal cycle patrol can manage the traffic. The cost of such patrols would be about Rs. 50,000 per annum for the presidency.

" I do not think there would be need for many prosecutions but the trial of cases would be expeditious. Otherwise any system is bound to break down if three, four and six adjournments are to be permitted for each case. This may necessitate a special enactment to cover control, because the magistrates must not only be expeditious but they must have power of warning and have power to suspend a driver's licence which, in my opinion, serves its purpose better than fine or imprisonment. The endorsement of a licence is a futile inanity."

* Mr. C. Basu Dev :—" Mr. President, Sir, if I rise to speak on this motion it is only with a view to invite the attention of the Government to a few points which require their sympathetic consideration. Already my Friends, Diwan Bahadur Appadurai Pillai and Mr. Foulkes have referred to some of them. The House is indebted to Mr. Foulkes for his very exhaustive and lucid exposition of the traffic problem with its increasing dangers. Sir, I do not want to detain the House by adding anything more to what has already been said by Mr. Foulkes. I would however like to refer to one other aspect of this traffic problem and that is ' the complete lack of the road-sense on the part of the pedestrians.' Sir, I remember three years ago when I was in the Finance Committee, Sir Charles Cunningham, the Inspector-General of Police coming up for a grant of about Rs. 3,000 to print and publish a pamphlet about ' road-sense ' which he said he would introduce in the various schools in the Presidency. I have not heard of that pamphlet

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since or of any subsequent activities in that direction. I don't know whether that pamphlet has actually been introduced and, if it has been introduced, what the effect of it is. Some attention with regard to road-sense is absolutely necessary if you are to train up the young boys of the day to be good citizens of the morrow. Sir, before I proceed further, allow me to pay my tribute to the Police authorities for the very remarkable improvement in the general tone and efficiency of the administration of this department. After the last civil disobedience movement which inevitably involved a measure of demoralisation in the Police force, I am glad to find that the force has recovered and now commands the respect of the public—the Congessmen included. I am glad and thankful to the Inspector-General of Police and the Commissioner of Police, particularly to the latter, for having issued circulars in the city of Madras that the Police ought to take particular care to see that they are polite to the public. Hitherto men in position and of wealth could set the police force on the track of some offender by a mere *telephone* message to a police station, while the poor man had to go to the police station, and lodge his complaint—the police oftentimes not being overpolite. I know from experience that a couple of years ago the treatment the public had at the police stations was not altogether complimentary to the police but now I am glad to find that it is not so and the public are treated with politeness and courtesy. And this in the city of Madras is due to the initiative and sympathetic kindness of our enlightened Commissioner of Police, Mr. Happel. In the districts also I have found a change in the tone and attitude of the police. Particularly in Coimbatore, which last month witnessed an unprecedented strike of about 3,000 workers in the cotton spinning and weaving mills, the police had been remarkably impartial and unperturbed by panicky tales of interested persons. Their attitude has evoked the respect and admiration of the public and of the workers and the success of the strike owes not a little to this fair and unbiassed attitude of police. In this connexion, I should like to pay my thanks to the District Superintendent of Police and the District Collector whose sympathy and impartiality has made them most popular and inspired the public that they can have fairplay and justice from their hands whoever may be the parties involved.

" Sir, though the tone has improved I must say there is very much still left to be desired and that can only be done if you raise the salaries and make the remuneration attractive from the police constable upwards. You cannot expect a high sense of duty and responsibility from a constable on Rs. 16 a month. I find from the budget figures that hundreds and hundreds of constables are on a low pay of Rs. 16 or Rs. 17 a month. The traffic constable in the Madras city who has got to do eight hours' duty on points and who has got to stand in the hot sun with an interval of only one hour is paid no extra allowance. Indeed, Sir, I submit it is inhuman to expect him to do work of that nature on such a small pay. I hope the Government will see their way to grant traffic constables at least some increased allowance. At present the allowance of Rs. 3 or 2 for a constable is not adequate.

"I would like to refer to the question of accommodation of the police force, not only in the city but also in the mufassal. I find that Government themselves are aware that the present accommodation is not satisfactory. When I refer to the question of accommodation, it is not only with regard to the number of the houses they have provided but also to type and nature particularly of those provided for the Indian 2-45 p.m. sub-inspectors. The quarters provided for the Indian sub-inspectors in the mufassal are not even fit for ordinary head constables. I submit that these officers should be given better housing accommodation or be granted house allowances and their present quarters handed over to the head constables. That would perhaps be doing some justice to the police sub-inspectors.

"Another point, Sir, is about the salaries of officers. I learn that the senior sub-inspector in the city does not like to go to the mufassal as Inspector because he stands to lose considerably by that promotion. This seems to be an anomaly not obtainable in any other departments of Government service. I hope the Government will see that a gentleman who is promoted to a higher grade does not lose financially as a result of that promotion.

"My hon. Friend, Diwan Bahadur Appadurai Pillai, referred to the ill-treatment of rickshawallas by the police. I am afraid, Sir, these petty tyrannies will continue until the police are paid adequately and enabled to resist the temptation to receive illegal gratification from the rickshawallas and cart-drivers. There is one other question with regard to these rickshawallas. Under the rules framed by the Police these people can carry only one passenger at a time; but unfortunately, on account of economic depression, it is very rarely that an individual engages a rickshaw separately for himself. Very often two persons engage a rickshaw, but the rickshawalla makes himself liable to prosecution. In many cases the rickshawallas have been prosecuted for this. I do not see why when two persons are willing to submit themselves to the inconvenience of being squeezed into a small ricksbaw and the man is prepared to carry them both, the police should interfere and say: 'No. You shall not carry more than one. If you do, you shall be prosecuted.' The poor fellows are seriously handicapped by this rule. There is no harm in allowing them to carry two passengers and if this is not done they will not be able to earn their fare for the day.

"I find in one paragraph of the Administration Report that the nuisance cases and cases under the special local laws again rose during the year as a result of the increased vigour and activity of the force. I am very sorry the number has risen. I have witnessed on very many occasions illiterate and poor persons being charged before bench magistrates for having committed nuisance on the roads. I once had the privilege of appealing to an honorary magistrate about the wisdom or propriety of fining poor peasants who come to the City of Madras as utter strangers and, finding no other place for the purpose, commit nuisance in the streets. It is the duty of the Corporation, as a civilized institution, to provide lavatories and urinals for the use of the

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public. They have not done that yet. Without any provision in this respect to convict a person coming to the city, on the strength of the rules framed in the name of civilization and to deprive him of the few annas he has with him is certainly an act of great inhumanity. Unless the Corporation is in a position to give these amenities, they have no business to ask the police to prosecute a man coming to the city possibly after paying some tax or other like the pilgrim tax. The Corporation should provide the necessary number of urinals and then only they can ask the Government to assist them in prosecuting persons offending against the law relating to nuisance and then only will the Government be justified in enforcing the rules.

"Sir, I have nothing more to say. I request the Government to consider these suggestions with sympathy and give the matter due consideration."

* Mr. V. P. Narayanan Nambiyar:—"Mr. President, if I intervene in this debate it is only to bring to the notice of the Hon. the Home Member the serious situation that has arisen in the district of North Malabar because of the Hindu-Muslim tension there. I am aware, that the hon. Gentleman and the Inspector-General of Police are carefully following the trend of events. Being a matter which involves communal tension between Hindus and Muslims, I do not want to say anything on the floor of this House that might in any way increase the tension or tend to aggravate the situation. However, I would like to point out to the Hon. the Home Member that the whole situation seems to have developed over the question of music before mosque and the pact that was entered into in connexion with that last year. I do not want to refer to the merits of the controversy, but I would earnestly appeal to the Hon. Gentleman the Home Member to have the whole question examined carefully and some satisfactory settlement arrived at. Otherwise, North Malabar which up till now has been luckily free from Mappilla rebellion or communal tension of this sort will become a place where the position may cause anxiety to all concerned. Sir, in this connexion I assure the Hon. the Home Member and the Inspector-General of Police that the non-official public of North Malabar will gladly and willingly co-operate in all attempts to end the sad situation which has so unfortunately developed."

* Mr. A. B. Shetty:—"Mr. President, Sir, before dealing with the general question of police administration and the necessity for improving the morale and strength of this force, I wish to draw the attention of the Hon. the Home Member to the question of expenditure on the railway police. I think we are spending more than 7 lakhs of rupees on railway police. In the Bihar Council, on several occasions, hon. Members have raised the question whether this expenditure should not be a charge upon the central revenues and upon the railways concerned. The railways get a good income from the travelling public and it must be their duty to safeguard the lives and property of the passengers. This Government ought not to be saddled with that

expenditure. I suppose, Sir, the financial relations between the provincial Governments and the Central Government will be settled soon. This is therefore the proper and the most appropriate time for this Government to press upon the attention of the Central Govenment this question and to see that we are not saddled with this cost.

" Sir, the Joint Committee of the British Parliament have, in their report, recognized that the Federal Government and the railway authorities have a liability in this matter and that they should make a reasonable contribution towards this expenditure. I suppose this matter is dealt with in section 181 of the Government of India Act.

" I said, while speaking on this motion last year, that the information placed at our disposal in the Administration Report is at least 15 months old and that we shall be in a better position to discuss about the work of the department if a statement of the crime for the previous year is furnished to us at the time of the budget debate. If you look at the report for 1934 you will find that it presents a rosy picture. It says that the total crime, in spite of the continuity of economic depression continued at a record low level, that the work of detection shows a new record of success for the third year in succession and that the progress of efficiency in every branch of the police work has been maintained. The discipline, contentment and spirit of the police force were all that could be desired. No doubt, Sir, there is a good deal of truth in what has been said in the report, but I am afraid the police are not a body of such angels as this report and Mr. Basu Dev would fain have us believe. There is a mighty deal in this department that stands in need of reform. We have in this povince the largest police force next to that of the United Provinces. If you look at the total of the cognizable crimes, you will find that the total number reported here is also the largest as compared with the other provinces. The incidence of this crime per thousand of the population is 5 per cent the highest compared with other provinces, while in the province of Bihar it is the lowest, viz., 1.5 per cent. If you look at the property lost, the amount comes to 17 lakhs and odd and the value of the property recovered is only 5 lakhs or 27.9 per cent. The proportion of the value of the property recovered to that lost was as high as 40.9 per cent in the year 1932. So, the Hon. the Home Member will please take note of these facts which go to show that there is need for increasing the efficiency of the police.

" Now, the first requisite of a good police system is recruitment of the right kind of men. We find that among the constables there are as many as 897 illiterate people, though it is only 3.8 per cent of the whole force. Last year, when there were about 233 vacancies of constables, 106 Secondary School-Leaving Certificate holders, one Intermediate and one Gratuate came as applicants. We find that there is no difficulty in getting suitable men to join the police force. But the majority of sub-inspectors and a good many of the constables are said to be still much below the average.

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" Even in an advanced country like America, we are told that there is a remarkable lack of intellectual fitness among the police force and it is revealed by the Alpha Army test."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The hon. Member may continue after lunch."

The House then adjourned for lunch to meet again at 3 p.m.

After lunch (3 p.m.).

* Mr. A. B. SHETTY :—" Mr. President, Sir, just before the House rose for lunch I was speaking about the remarkable lack of intellectual fitness, as revealed by the Alpha Army Test among policemen in some places in America. I must say that if a similar test is applied to our Police Force, we shall find that many people are much below the mark. I do not think that it is too much to ask that we must also have such a test of fitness for selecting the right sort of men to our Police force. There is no difficulty in getting suitable men and men with sufficient educational qualifications are coming forward to join the police force even as constables. I should think that we must raise the minimum educational qualifications laid down for the selection of Sub-Inspectors. Sub-Inspectors, so to say, are the backbone of our police force. They do very important work. They hold in their hands the honour, the liberty and even the lives of the people and it is therefore necessary that we should select the right kind of men for this important work.

" Sir, not less important than the selection of the right type of men is the training given to them in police methods and procedure. In 1927 a Conference of Police Officers recommended that we should give training for at least 9 months to constables and that it should be the minimum period. I do not think we give a training of more than 6 months for our police constables. In Bombay there is a training school in Nasik and they have got a special branch there for giving training to head constables. I suppose we have no such special branch in the training schools in our Presidency. The Bombay Government have also been considering the opening of a Detective Training school. I should like to know from the Hon. the Home Member what specialized training in detection work is given to the police who are employed for this branch of work in this Presidency. In Bombay in fact the reorganization of the whole police force so as to bring it into line with modern conditions is under the consideration of that Government. If the police force is to do its duty fully, it must also be equippd properly. In these days the criminal has advanced in his profession and in order to keep pace with the times our detective force also must be improved. We must have modern methods for detecting crimes and battling with criminals. Now that the automobile has come in, the criminals no longer walk, and if the patrol man in big cities is not provided with a motor car or motor cycle it is difficult for him to catch the criminals. We must have an up-to-date police signal system. In Detroit in America by means of a police radio, they are able to catch

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the criminal red-handed. A murderer is captured on the spot where the murder is committed and a burglar is captured at the very place where he piles up his looted property. The arm of the law has been quickened as well as lengthened. If we have a progressive police system by selecting the right sort of men by training them properly and by giving them adequate equipment, we must be able to decrease the extent of the police force. In Berkley in America by having a progressive police force, they were able to reduce the police force. While the population became almost treble, the number of serious offences was reduced by about one half.

" Sir, some Members have already spoken about the increase in the number of motor accidents and the measures that are required in the way of traffic regulation and control by the Police. It is true that we have not got sufficient number of policemen for traffic regulation work in all districts. The causes of accidents may be said to be bad roads, mechanical defects of cars, overloading, competitive racing on roads and negligence and incompetence of drivers. The measures required for reducing the number of accidents are many. First of all we must have a stricter driving test. I should think that drivers of taxi-cars should be subjected to medical examination to find out whether they have any eye or ear defect. We should also take care to see that the driver is one of steady and sober habits; for we find that men who drink, even though they may be moderate, cannot make fine adjustments of the steering wheel which are necessary at critical times. We must have a more careful inspection of the motor vehicles with a view to see that there are no mechanical defects in them. Often-times defective brakes lead to accidents. It is important to see that the driver has a better knowledge of mechanics than he usually possesses. We must have a stricter control in the matter of preventing overloading. And above all it is necessary to see that a certain speed limit is enforced, not merely by legislation, but by other methods also. If we could devise a mechanism which could guarantee that the prescribed speed limit will not be exceeded, it will go a great way to reduce the number of accidents. Another thing which leads to accidents is overwork. We find for instance that lorry drivers are driving even the whole night. They are overworked. They have no fixed hours of work. We find that a driver is scarcely able to drive with that care which is necessary when he does his work foregoing his sleep and when he is in an exhausted state of body and mind.

" I think the Hon. the Home Member will not be bold enough to say that there is no corruption in this department, though I should think that on account of recruiting a better class of men there is less corruption now than we had before. People are afraid to go and complain to the higher authorities of the Police Department about the corruption prevailing particularly among the subordinate ranks of the Police. If assurance is given to the people that if they make any such complaint they will be protected and if immediate investigation is made and proper punishment is meted out, we shall have many more men coming forward to speak to corruption among the Police.

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" Government in their review of the Police Administration Report note with satisfaction that there has been increased co-operation between the police and the general public but still they would stress that ' there is a real need to continue these efforts and enlist the friendship and consequently the support of the public.'

" In this connexion, I would draw the attention of the Hon. the Home Member to the note issued last year by the officiating Police Commissioner at Calcutta regarding the duties of the police towards the public. He says, ' The police is held in such disfavour by the public because of their over-bearing high-handed behaviour, their hectoring and bullying methods, their lack of consideration for the feelings of the people and their forgetfulness of the fact that the police officer is not the master but the servant of the public.' And then he exhorts the police force to make all possible efforts for bringing about a change in the attitude of the public towards the subordinate ranks of the police force. He asks them first of all to understand that they are not the masters but the servants of the public. He says they must show unfailing civility and courtesy in their behaviour towards the public. He asks the Inspectors to set an example themselves in this matter and he says he will hold them personally responsible if their subordinate officers give room for any complaints in regard to their behaviour.

" If, Sir, the London Police works so excellently and if they have 3-15
won the trust and affection of the people to such a large extent it is p.m.
on account of their extreme civility and courtesy towards the people. The necessity for such courteous behaviour towards the public must be impressed on the police here also. I would therefore ask the Hon. the Home Member to give his best consideration to the suggestions made by me if he wants to keep the police up to the mark and if he wants to make them less unpopular and more helpful to the people."

Diwan Bahadur M. Gopalaswami Mudaliyar:—" Mr. President, Sir, I wish to draw the hon. the Home Member's attention to one point because other hon. Members have already referred to other points. A punitive police is stationed in one part of our district known as Nandavaram in Adoni taluk. Three villages by name Nandavaram, Achapuram and Kuluchanda have been grouped together for this purpose and since August last year a punitive police has been stationed there. The notification is dated 9th August 1935. The police force consists of one sub-inspector, one head constable and four constables and the cost of this force is to be borne by the inhabitants of these three villages. Sir, the village of Achapuram contains 110 houses, has a population of 581 and pays a land revenue of Rs. 1,800. The village of Kulachanda contains 147 houses, has a population of 668 and pays a land revenue of Rs. 1,500. The village of Nandavaram contains 300 houses, has a population of 1,000 and pays a land revenue of about Rs. 2,200. These three villages have been clubbed together for the purpose of the punitive police. Every man and every woman living in these villages has been asked to contribute towards the cost of the police because there had been a faction fight in the village of Nandavaram and some people took part in it not only once but probably twice. Sir, the trouble comes here. Instead

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of picking out the parties responsible for the trouble and having them bound over to keep the peace or dealing with them according to the Criminal Procedure Code or the Indian Penal Code, the three villages are clubbed together and everyone living in those villages males and females included, is asked to contribute towards the cost of the punitive police. Unfortunately, Sir, my district is not like other districts; it is constantly affected by famine. The whole of last year there was famine there and Government spent lakhs of rupees in order to alleviate the distress of the poor people in those places. In spite of that fact they have established the punitive police there. Not only these three villages but the whole taluk feels for it and the whole district also feels for it. There may be some other districts also in which a punitive police may be stationed. But so far as my district is concerned, it is very poor, has always been very poor and it has not yet recovered from the famine and just at this time the poor inhabitants of these villages have been asked to pay the cost of the punitive police. It seems to me, Sir, that it is very unjust and inequitable. By all means let the cost be collected, if it is necessary to continue the punitive police there, from the important persons there who are supposed to have been guilty of misdemeanour or of any particular offence, or who are known to be generally inclined to commit offences. Let the cost of the punitive police be recovered from those few persons but let not every man and woman in the villages be asked to pay this tax. That is a grievance which I would place before the Hon the Home Member for his kind consideration.

" Sir, I do not want to add anything more. So far as my district is concerned I should say that we have been particularly lucky in that we have had absolutely no trouble whatsoever; in fact we have every word of commendation for the police. When famine affected the district and when many large camps were established in various parts of the district, employing a large army of labourers and small pattadars who had to walk a distance of several miles every day for their work, there was absolutely no trouble whatsoever in spite of the fact that the police stationed there were very few. There was no murder in a place which is notorious for murders and there has been no fight or anything of that kind. I think this is due to the fact that the few policemen who were stationed there were very kind and sympathetic. I wish the policemen were in other places also were like these policemen so that we may not hear the usual cry that is sometimes heard here, namely, that the policeman is not human, has no sympathy and is rather oppressive, certainly very oppressive towards the poor. If the department encourages the development of the good qualities I have mentioned in their policemen in order to see that they behave well towards the poor and make them think that they are really the friend of the poor and distressed, I think the Police Department will certainly earn the gratitude of the people."

* **Mr. P. K. RAMACHANDRA PADAYACHI**:—(Spoke in Tamil): தென்னாற்காடு ஜில்லா திருப்பாபுலியூர் டவுன் போலீஸ்டேஷனை எடுத்துவிட்ட பிறகு அந்தயிடத்தில் கொலை கேஸ்கள் அடிக்கடி நடந்து வருகின்றன. ஷை யூர் பாடலீஸ்வரன் கோவில் பெரிய தேவஸ்தானம பிரம்ம உட்சவத்தின்போது அதிக ரவுடிகள் சேரு

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வார்கள். அந்த யிடத்தில் அடிக்கடி கலகங்கள் நடந்துக்கொண்டிருக்கிறது. சர்க்காருக்கு சொந்தமான கட்டிடம் இருந்துக் கொண்டிருக்கிறது. ஆகையால் அந்த யிடத்தில் அவுட் போஸ்டாவது வைக்குமாறு ஏற்பாடு செய்யவேண்டும். கிராமாந்தரங்களில் உள்ள போலீஸ் ஸ்டேஷன்களை எடுத்து, டவுன்களில் வைத்து விட்டார்கள். கிராம ரோட்டுகளில் பீட் யிருந்துகொண்டு வந்தது. அதையும் எடுத்துவிட்டார்கள். அடிக்கடி கிராமங்களில் நடக்கும் கலகங்கள் போலீஸாருக்கு தெரிந்து கொள்ள முடியவில்லை. போலீஸ்டேஷன்கள் யிருந்த இடத்தில் அவுட் போஸ்டாவது யிருக்க வேண்டுமென்றும், இதைப்பற்றி கனம் ஹோம் மெம்பர் அவர்கள் கவனிக்குமாறு கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்."

* Diwan Bahadur R. Srinivasan:—" Sir, the loyalty and discipline the police observed during the civil disobedience movement was highly creditable. I should say on the other hand that there is a cause for complaint in their practice of beating the men, of assaulting them when they are taken into their custody. It is the duty of the police constable or an officer when he goes to arrest a person to tell him clearly why he is to be arrested and after arresting him take him to the police station and keep him in custody. Then the information wanted from the man may be taken and he charged. What the constable does is, immediately on seeing the man to be arrested, to give him blows and then speak to him and tell him what for he has come. If the man utters a word he gets furthermore. With that even he is not left. He is taken to the station and there also he is assaulted till he gives the sort of reply which the police consider satisfactory from their point of view, no matter whether what he says is the truth or a lie."

At this stage the Deputy President took the Chair.

* Diwan Bahadur R. Srinivasan:—" The concern of the police is that the man should say what they want him to say. Not only assault but very serious acts also are done. I shall relate what happened in one case in Maduravayal a few miles from Madras on the Poonamallee High Road. A man was taken in custody on a charge of theft and brought to the police station. As to what happened there, this was what the eye-witnesses said:

'Nallathambi, the brother of the deceased, and Chinnathambi, the brother-in-law of the deceased, both made allegations at the inquest that the deceased was assaulted by the sub-inspector and constables. Both these persons alleged that they witnessed the actual assault taking place and that they were together at the time. The former alleged that the sub-inspector kicked the deceased in the stomach whilst he was in the station compound and that then two constables bumped the deceased on the ground and the deceased made no sound after this. The latter alleged that the sub-inspector and constable beat the deceased with lathis inside the station and that he was given about forty or more blows. It was the contention of these witnesses that the death of the deceased was caused by the police. No injuries were found on the body of the deceased to support the allegations made by these two relations.'

" Now, Sir, the post-mortem examination gives the true state of the man. I do not want to read the whole account of it, but I will read only one or two extracts from it. This is what was stated in the post-mortem report:

'Heart—Right side empty. Left auricle contained two drams of dark fluid blood. Left ventricle half a dram of dark fluid blood. Heart soft, flabby and decomposed.

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'Lungs—Large areas of hæmorrhage in lower lobes of both the lungs. Upper lobes dry, not conjested. Bronchial tubes and lower part of trachea contained blood-stained froth. Larynx upper part of trachea pale. Not congested.'

"The post-mortem report goes on like this. Now let us take the opinion of the Professor of Medical Jurisprudence, Medical College, Madras, on the report. It says:

'If the presence of oleander in the stomach is not responsible for the death of Nannu alias Munian as could be excluded from the history of poisoning symptoms, the appearances are not inconsistent with death from hanging and that the hæmorrhage in the lungs might be explained by man handling.'

"Sir, it shows there that it was manhandling that was the cause of this man's death. It was said that the man hanged himself and died. I took the trouble of going to the police station myself to see the cell where this prisoner was kept. I found that it was impossible for any man to hang himself in that cell because the window was very low. How can a man hang himself when the window is so very low not above the height of the man?

1-30 p.m. "Our Government is a civilized one; the British Government should see that such things do not happen. But in other countries if a constable assaults a man in his custody and when it is reported, during his trial, it is noted down and the constable tried by a magistrate or a judge and sentenced. In this country that is not done; the magistrate does not take note of any such complaints. Therefore people take the trial and get punished besides passing through the police who assault them. There is nobody to check such actions of the police. We are having a civilized Government and something must be done to put a stop to this bad practice. The practice should not be allowed to continue. I hope the Hon. the Home Member will take this matter up and issue necessary orders to stop this bad and violent practice altogether.

"I am told that the policemen in the city take hold of the rickshawallahs and have them do manual work; they are asked to come in turn and water the plants in the station. They treat the innocent riskshawallahs cruelly.

"I wish to speak on another point which was referred to by some of the previous speakers. The police would not allow two persons to be taken in a rickshaw. Suppose a husband and wife have to go; is the husband to go in one rickshaw and his wife in another? Again, suppose a girl and an escort have to go to school; is the girl to go in one rickshaw and the escort in another? The police should allow the rickshawallahs to carry two persons. Other points were touched by other Members. With these observations I hope the Hon. the Home Member will put a stop to some of these bad practices such as assault."

Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari:—"Mr. President, Sir, I wish to make a few observations on this demand. In the course of two years, four District Superintendents of Police have been posted and transferred from the Guntur district. I just want to bring to the notice

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of the Hon. the Home Member that there should not be frequent changes of District Superintendents of Police; otherwise there will not be any continuity of proper administration in the district. I request the Hon. Member to see that one officer is posted and continued for a period of two or three years without any disturbance. I do not speak only for my district but on behalf of all districts. Three Deputy Superintendents of Police were posted to Narasaraopet within a period of eight months. I suggest that such things should not take place at least in the future.

"Another thing which I wish to bring to the notice of the Hon. the Home Member is this: Circle inspectors are transferred to circles in the same district; they are not transferred to other districts. The Inspector-General of Police should transfer them very frequently to other districts. If a sub-inspector is posted in the same district for about twenty years, he is prejudiced. It is desirable to shift them to other districts for various reasons. I suggest the transfer of these subordinate officers to other districts, instead of allowing them to remain in the same district for a number of years.

"I wish to refer to another point. In some places, no quarters are available for the sub-inspectors. In one place a sub-inspector is living in the cattle-shed of a ryot, for want of other accommodation. He was able to secure greater accommodation because it was a cattle-shed. I speak from personal knowledge. In some places they must be given comfortable quarters very near the police station.

"I wish to find out from the Government—now that police inspectors are selected by the Public Service Commission—as to why no Kamma at all was selected for a police inspector's post. I want to know whether there are any instructions given by the Government not to select any Kammas. I wish to have my doubt cleared. Even though there were several hundreds of applicants from this community, no Kamma has been selected by the Public Service Commission. Our community is fairly very large, with a population of 20 lakhs. With these words I thank the Deputy President for giving me this opportunity to speak."

* Rao Sahib V. I. Muniswami Pillai:—"Sir, I have given notice of a cut motion, in order to point out the hardship caused to cattle-owners due to the action of the police in regard to cattle in the Nilgiris. This is what is happening at Ootacamund. I think the Police department have issued orders to the constables that animals that are found grazing very near the road are to be impounded. Not only that, Sir; even owners of cattle are prosecuted. Cattle in our country have become very poor for want of grazing facilities; they have to go a long way for grazing. There is very little grazing ground. The recent order has given a shock to those people who are owning cattle. Of course the object with which it is done is to give more facilities to people using the road. Due to the increase of motor transhipment, if cattle are allowed to stray by the side of public roads, there will be

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great danger to many lives. At the same time it must be noted that facilities have to be given also to people who are owning cattle. I find that the District Superintendent of Police of late has issued a circular for the safety of property of visitors to Ootacamund. I do admire the way in which the circular is couched to protect the things of people who would come to Ootacamund for the season. I do hope the Hon. the Home Member will give some consideration to the former matter.

"The other point is the representation of the depressed classes in the rank and file of the Police department. Every year it has been the special pleading of myself and some of my hon. Friends that the representation of my community in this department is inadequate. At the Round Table Conference my friends who represented the depressed classes pleaded for citizen rights for our community. We were told that in the Instrument of Instructions, necessary provision would be made for such safeguards.

"I hear and understand that the subordinate police do not pay much attention to the complaints made by depressed classes at the police station. For instance I may point out that in the district of Tinnevelly, a depressed class man who owned a cycle was thrown off his cycle. A complaint was lodged at the police station. It was not carefully looked into and investigated. The policeman seems to have said: why should a pariah ride on a cycle. It is not possible to prove a case of that sort due to the poverty and illiteracy of the depressed classes. At the same time we look to the Police department to look into these matters. Such sort of oppression is going on in every district and unless the police take proper action in the matter I am afraid that proper justice will not be done to the community. I would only plead to the Hon. the Home Member that he will kindly see that due representation is given to the depressed classes in the Police department."

* Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder:—"Mr. Deputy President, Sir, I thank you very much for having allowed me a little time to make a few observations, though I would very much like to have more time to deal with all the points which I wanted to raise on this demand. To start with, I should like to point out that in the Administration Report for 1934–35 it is stated that cattle thefts have had a marked increase. I would inform the hon. Member that this is a matter which affects the agriculturists most and I request him to see that there is marked decrease in future, by having effective check, and vigilant action on the part of the police.

"I should like to request the Hon. the Home Member to see that vigilance committees are appointed all over the Presidency so that there will be close co-operation between the public and the police in the matter of detection of crimes. From the Administration Report I find that this has been organized only in a few districts; but we see from this short experience that they are working very well. I wish that such committees are appointed in every place.

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"In making recruitment to the service I would particularly appeal to the Hon. the Home Member to give preference to men in the rural areas, especially of agriculturists communities and appoint them as constables, sub-inspectors, etc. Then only you will be able to have closer contact between this department and the public who are mostly agriculturists in the rural areas, and this will help the department to run smoothly and efficiently. 3-45 p.m.

"With regard to reduction of expenditure, I have given notice of various cut motions, and I wanted to deal with them elaborately, but I am sorry I have not enough time at my disposal to go through them. I would only request the Hon. the Home Member to look into them, examine them and see whether the reductions suggested cannot be made. Of course I am glad to see from the Budget that some reduction has been made for the coming year; but there is still much room for reduction in expenditure, by cutting down to some extent the supervising staff such as Deputy Commissioners and Assistant Commissioners, Deputy Superintendents and Assistant Superintendents and in various other directions. I hope the Hon. the Home Member will look into them.

"I shall now pass on to the subject on which I have been carrying on correspondence with the Government, i.e., with regard to the regulation of bus traffic. In this respect, Sir, Government are not following any uniform system; they allow the practices obtaining in the various districts to continue. I would urge on the Government to adopt a uniform system throughout. Some districts have a system of fixing definite timings for starting of buses, for touching the various points on the route and for arriving at their destination; whereas in some other districts it is not so. Unfortunately, as there is no uniform system prevailing, the bus people themselves have got grave complaints to make and the complaints of the public are still greater as they do not know where they are. The buses have become the ordinary public conveyance and are very widely used. So, there must be regular timings adopted and strictly followed to avoid disappointment and difficulties to which the public are now put to. In my district, I am trying to bring in the system fixed timings obtaining in the sister districts of Coimbatore and Trichinopoly, but the local authorities do not seem to be favourably inclined towards this proposal. I do not know what the difficulties are there in their way; probably the difficulty may be the inconvenience caused to the Police department. Since there is no fixed time adopted in the matter of starting, touching at various way-side places, and arriving at the destination of each bus, the police people themselves often detain buses if any of their people are to come, and besides they generally take away buses now for their own purposes, wherever and whenever they want. But if on the other hand a regular timing system is fixed, probably the bus people will not be able to meet their convenience, since they are obliged to keep regular time, and the police authorities too could not break the rule themselves.

That is perhaps the reason why the Police department is reluctant to introduce this system in my district. I would urge, Sir, that from a public point of view, the fixing of regular timings for buses is quite necessary and it should be adopted in my district early. In the regulation of bus traffic, I wish the Police department themselves see that they do not break the rules, but enforce them in proper spirit and sympathy, so that this important mode of conveyance may thrive and the public may enjoy it.

"With regard to bus inspectors, I hear that a certain number of them have been retrenched, but that they are not taken up again whenever vacancies occur, because of the qualifications which have been recently fixed for these posts standing in their way. But when once these people have been admitted to this service and some have been put to the necessity of taking to special training at Bombay and after they have served for years, the Government should not adopt this attitude towards them. I also understand, Sir, that persons who do not have the full qualifications now fixed, are still continued in service, and so it is not too much to ask that these unfortunate men who are thrown out, not for any fault on their part are taken in the vacancies that may arise, and the Government do not stand on the formality of rules promulgated only recently.

"Finally, Sir, I thank the Hon. the Home Member for removing the punitive police from the beginning of this year from Attayampatti in my district and thereby relieving the poor people from the oppression of having to pay for this establishment in these hard days. I have given notice of various cut motions raising many specific questions but I am sorry, Sir, that I do not have sufficient time at my disposal to deal with them. So, I request that the Hon. the Home Member will go through them and take such action on them as may be necessary."

* The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM:—"Mr. Deputy President, Sir, let me at the outset acknowledge on behalf of the Police department the tribute paid to the good work turned out during the past year, by various Members of the House, and let me also express my appreciation of the very helpful criticisms which as far as this demand is concerned, have been made.

"Going now to the various points raised by several Members, I should like first to point out to my friend Diwan Bahadur A. Appadurai Pillai that there is absolutely no basis for his first charge, *viz.*, the seizure of cycles for which licence fees had not been paid to the *Corporation*. For, it is no part of the duty of the Police department to be a tax-collector on behalf of the Corporation. They have not been doing that work, nor have they been seizing cycles from cyclists on the road just because those cycles happened to be unlicensed. It may be that in some particular case where a subordinate of the Corporation finding some difficulty in carrying out his work in seizing cycles, might have sought the aid of the police officer on the spot. It is the

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duty of every police officer in such cases to help an officer of the Corporation in the discharge of his duties, if such help is considered necessary. But beyond help rendered in that way to some Corporation official in the discharge of his duties, I can assure Hon. Members of this House that the police have not been playing the part of tax-collector to the Madras Corporation.

"The other grievance which my hon. Friend referred to was about the collection of provincial taxes on motor vehicles. That, Sir, stands completely on a different footing. Speaking for myself, I should perhaps share the grievance of my friend; but the police who have to discharge their duty insist on everybody discharging his duty as well, irrespective of the position which he might occupy. Law imposes the duty of collecting these taxes on motors on the Police department, and they have got to collect the taxes from the cars running in various parts of the district. And in order to ensure that no car escapes this taxation, certain methods have to be adopted. It is said that the department has not been quite considerate in the methods adopted. Sir, the usual practice so far has been to allow a week's grace for people to take out licences after the beginning of the quarter. That is, if any owner of a car takes out a licence within the first week of the quarter, even though technically he ought to take it on the very first day of the quarter, no action is taken at all. Even there, I believe in the enforcement of this rule, mnch more leniency is shown. But generally the checking of the cars in order to see whether they have taken out licences or not is not taken up till about the third week of the first month. Therefore, in practice, car-owners generally have about 20 or 21 days to take out the licence and escape any prosecution for failure to do so. It may be that even after the 21st of the first month, there will be some people who forget to take out licences, and it is they who come under the clutches of the law. But my hon. Friend who has himself been a District Magistrate, occupying a high responsible position, could realize the necessity of every law being enforced at some stage or other and every tax being collected at least after the days of grace run out. Surely, he will not put the blame on the Police department if they find it necessary to stop cars on particular days of the month for the purpose of seeing if they have been licensed or not.

"Then the third point referred to was about the lights in rickshaws going out and the rickshawallahs being prosecuted. There again, it is all a question of discharging one's duties. It will be noticed that several Members made a point—and a very good one at that—that the traffic should be controlled as much as possible, particularly in these days of motor buses and motor cars. For bringing about an effective control, it seems to me that it is necessary that during nights, even if it be along the well-lit streets of Madras, insistence should be made on vehicles carrying their own lights. Perhaps in the one case which was referred to by my hon. Friend, the rickshaw was not pulled and the lights had accidentally gone out—perhaps it was a case of hardship, and I am sure it was a case for sympathetic consideration. If any

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police officer without taking due consideration of the circumstances of the case prosecuted the man, then I say, it is a case deserving greater consideration no doubt; but if because of that one particular instance, the hon. Member thinks that the rule insisting that rickshaws in the Madras City must have two lights fixed to them when being dragged along the roads of Madras during dark nights, places an undue burden on the vehicle-owners or rickshawallahs, then I am afraid I cannot agree.

"Turning to the question of people being arrested, taken to the police station and subjected to hardships with a view to extracting confession from them, an appeal was made to me by my friend Diwan Bahadur Srinivasan, and that point was also referred to by my friend Diwan Bahadur Appadurai Pillai who said that instructions should be issued that such things should not happen. It seems to me that it amounts to merely asking me to instruct the police to act according to law. It is their duty to do so, and they ought to do so; and surely in a matter like this, no special instruction is necessary. I do not say that throughout the province there are not cases of this sort. There may be cases here and there, and if there are, they are really regrettable; but all that I can say is that every precaution is being taken to see that no illegal methods are adopted by the police in the course of their investigations. If any instance is brought to my notice or to the notice of the proper authorities, I am quite sure the subordinate concerned will not be lightly dealt with.

"While dealing with this matter, I may incidentally refer to the case of a person dying in the police lock-up, which was adverted to by my friend Diwan Bahadur Srinivasan. I can assure him that that case, if he will remember, was the subject of a special reference by himself to the Government. A report was called for and it was found later that a thorough enquiry into the matter had already been made. A responsible official, a first-class magistrate, had enquired into the case and found that the police were not at all to blame. And if, as was stated in the post-mortem certificate, there were appearances of manhandling of the man, it was not manhandling of the man in the police station, but it was a case of handling him at the place of theft when after being detected by certain persons he attempted to run away, the owners of the property which he sought to steal pursued him, caught hold of him and handled him before he was actually handed over to the police. It was at that stage that there was a certain amount of manhandling by the persons whose property he sought to steal. It was certainly found out during the course of the enquiry that the evidence that was tendered against the police consisted merely of evidence of the brother of the deceased, the evidence of the brother-in-law of the deceased and one other witness; and it seems their evidence, between themselves, was contradictory. It was therefore that the first-class magistrate when he held the enquiry, found that there was no reason to blame the police at all.

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" Dealing with the control of traffic, the hon. Member, Mr. Foulkes, made certain suggestions and suggestions were also made by other hon. Members. I am not sure if all those suggestions would in practice be found practicable or workable, but may I for the information of the House just explain how overspeeding is being checked and control over motor-buses plying for hire is being exercised. I know that in the mufassal, we are not having the patrol system which Mr. Foulkes suggested; on the other hand, there is another system which is being observed in certain districts and which is equally practicable, and it is this. The bus-owners, when they go from one place to another, are asked generally to report at the police station about the time at which they start and as soon as they reach the other town they have to report themselves at the police station of that place and also at the stations on the way for checking the corresponding time, and the distance that is covered; this generally has proved to be a very effective check on overspeeding. In this city, my belief is that control is being tightened more and more; and due to the introduction of the new type of buses which have been insisted on recently, accidents have gone down considerably; and the figures for the past few years also show that considering the increase in the number of motor vehicles, whether they be private-owned cars or buses or taxis, the number of accidents cannot be said to be very large, though I do not say that even the present accidents could not be avoided. All that I can assure hon. Members is that as in the past, so also in the future, effective control will be exercised in the city, and also in the outlying districts to see that as few accidents as possible happen and that as effective a control as possible is exercised over motor traffic.

" Dealing with the control of motor traffic, Mr. Basu Dev wanted to know what had become of the undertaking, of the Inspector-General of Police regarding the issue of pamphlets on 'Road Sense.' As a matter of fact, we have printed and circulated copies and if a few more copies are available in the Secretariat, I will see to it that the hon. Member as also other hon. Members of the House are also provided with it, because, to some of us at least this pamphlet might be instructive, particularly when young gentlemen like my hon. Friend, Mr. Basu Dev, take to driving cars on roads. 4 P.M.

" Sir, a suggestion was made that the pay of the police should be increased, particularly for the purpose of keeping them off the path of temptation. This point was raised during the course of the general discussion and I, personally speaking, should be only too glad to distribute all the money that could be had, among the persons serving in the Police department. But, I would only like to point out how much of a strain it would be on the finances of the Government if I were to suggest an increase of even a rupee a month for all the constables in the service. For about 25,000 or 26,000 men serving in the various parts of the Presidency, an increase of one rupee per head comes to about three lakhs of rupees a year; and immediately, I am sure, hon. Members would come forward and say: what is this one rupee increase, from Rs. 16 to Rs. 17; it is not going to give benefit

to anybody at all; it ought to be something more substantial, say about 10 lakhs or so. Now, if we come to you for fresh taxation, hon. Members will say that this is a most outrageous Government which cannot find its money elsewhere other than by taxation. Further, I am not quite sure, merely by increasing the scale of pay of these men by a few rupees, you are really going to divert those people who are inclined to be corrupt from the path of corruption. I do not say that there is no corruption at all. There is. But, as my hon. Friend, Mr. Shetty, was willing to acknowledge, things are improving and I only hope that things will go on improving. He told me that I would not have the courage to say that there was no corruption at all in the Police department. Certainly I have not got the courage, but I have not the courage either to say that human nature is incorruptible.

" Suggestions were made that necessary and sufficient accommodation should be provided for the police force throughout the province. That matter, as a matter of fact, has been receiving the attention of the Government and we have got a scheme costing somewhere about one crore and eight lakhs for providing suitable buildings for the policemen in the province wherever we can, and for the last two or three years we have been carrying out this programme by instalments. Honourable Members would realize that this is not a matter in which it would be possible to launch at one full stretch. The matter has been taken on hand and I am sure the programme will be carried through in due time. . . (Mr. K. Koti Reddi: 'You can do it in instalments.') Even that, for lines to be built throughout the province at a cost of one crore and eight lakhs, it would be an impracticable task. Anyway, there is the programme and we will try to push it through and see that all the buildings are constructed. (Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari: 'Smaller officers should be provided first.') It is going to cost all this amount only for building quarters for the smaller officers like sub-inspectors, head constables and constables. (Interruption by Mr. C. Basu Dev.) It has been found that certain types of quarters are necessary for certain grades of officers; and it might be that in one particular case where my hon. Friend was the guest of a sub-inspector, he might have found difficulty in getting accommodation.

" Turning to my hon. Friend Mr. Gopalaswami Mudaliyar from Anantapur. . . (A voice: 'Bellary.') I am sorry, I was more obsessed with Anantapur because my hon. Friend Mr. Rameswara Rao has been urging on me in private though not here the claims of Anantapur; and what I am going to say to Mr. Gopalaswami Mudaliyar will equally apply to Mr. Rameswara Rao in regard to the matter. As I said already, Government take no pleasure in imposing punitive police on the villagers. Wherever it is practically possible we are prepared to withdraw the punitive police when we see that there is no immediate or urgent necessity for it. We have during the last year withdrawn the punitive police from Kalyanapuram in the Tanjore district; and thanks to the efforts of my hon. Friend Mr. Nachiyappa

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Gounder we were able to withdraw the punitive police from Salem; and if my hon. Friends, Messrs. Gopalaswami Mudaliyar and Rameswara Rao would only take a leaf from Mr. Nachiyappa Gounder's book, and go to the villages concerned, bring the factions together, take them over to the Collector and see that they live in peace and harmony, that very moment we can withdraw the punitive police. On the other hand, if people in particular villages, in spite of the famine prevailing in Bellary and Anantapur and in spite of the hardships to which they have been put during the last two or three years, would not take a lesson and would not allow their internecine quarrels to subside, if perpetually people have to live in danger of their lives from the other factions and if consequently a larger force is necessary to keep watch and ward over them than would ordinarily be required, all that I would say is, would this House consider it fair that the general tax-payer should bear the burden which is necessitated by the misbehaviour of those villagers, and is it not but right to insist that people who necessitated this extraordinary state of things and the consequent imposition of a tax, should bear the burden and not the other peace-loving neighbours. And in the enforcement of the collections of this tax, I am sure hon. Members would agree with me when I say that the greatest amount of sympathy has been shown; and every case has been scrutinized and even in those villages where the punitive police has been imposed, where we have got evidence to show that particular residents are keeping out of the factions, they are exempted. I am afraid, more than this cannot be promised.

" Regarding the incident in Malabar to which my hon. Friend, Mr. Nambiyar referred, I can only say that it is very regrettable that where there has so far been peace and harmony, due to some mischief-makers on either side, this trouble should have arisen; but there is one thing to be grateful for and that is, so far there has been no serious trouble which is mainly due to the tactful manner in which the situation has been handled by the District Magistrate and the other district officers. Here I should like to pay a tribute to the very patient and tactful manner in which the situation has been handled so far and I can only hope that better counsels with the people would prevail. After all, as far as I could see from the reports it is all the result of the activities of a few mischief-makers on either side. A very careful watch is being kept over the situation and I hope peace and harmony would once again prevail in the place.

" As regards the point raised by my hon. Friend, Mr. Krishnayya Choudari, about the constant transfers of police officers, it is unnecessary for me to refer to it here as I have already dealt with it.

" In regard to the suggestion of my hon. Friend, Mr. Nachiyappa Gounder, about the Village Association system being introduced in other parts also, it will certainly be borne in mind and wherever the least co-operation is forthcoming from the villagers, every endeavour,

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I am sure, will be made on the part of the department in establishing these associations and seeking the co-operation of the residents of the villages.

" As far as motor buses and timings are concerned, as I have said repeatedly in answer to interpellations of my hon. Friend, it is not a matter in which it is possible for the Government as such from the centre to lay down a uniform policy applicable throughout the whole area of the Province, as circumstances in each district vary and discretion has of course to be left to the local authority in each district consisting of the Collector, the District Superintendent of Police and the District Board President, who represent almost all the interests connected with the plying of motor buses, and it would certainly not be proper on the part of the Government to interfere with their discretion.

" In regard to the Bus Inspectors who have been ousted and not taken in, all I would submit is that they were never regularly in the organized service. Originally the Bus Inspectors were employed by each District Magistrate for his own district; and when the whole thing was made into a sort of provincial service and the Inspector-General of Police was asked to select a certain number of the then existing Bus Inspectors, the best among them were selected. Subsequent to that, we have framed certain statutory rules wherein qualifications are prescribed for these posts, and if those qualifications are satisfied by the ousted men they would certainly be given preference. Even there we had to make exemptions in the case of men already employed in regard to age-limit. But if you take the question of removing the educational qualification there is this difficulty. After all, these Bus Inspectors are given the status of Inspectors of Police and a certain amount of knowledge of English to enable them to send in their reports and other things has to be insisted on; and if the general educational qualification is lacking, I am afraid it would not be possible for even the ousted men to be taken into the service.

-15 p.m. " Then my friend, Mr. Muniswami Pillai, from Ootacamund, made some remarks. I am not sure exactly what he meant. If his grievance was that people's cattle were not allowed to roam about everybody else's quarters, we know what a nuisance they are not only to motor cars but how these have a knack of thrusting themselves in other people's places. If the hon. Member would quote the number of the motion . . . (*An hon. Member*: '742.') Well that motion takes us nowhere. I am sure the police do not take a delight in taking up this attitude on other people's cattle. He says the cattle should be given absolute freedom to roam where they like. This is a proposition with which nobody would agree. As regards the representation of the depressed classes in the services there again on several occasions in answer to interpellations, I explained the policy of the department how every endeavour is being made to enlist as many depressed classes men in the police service right from the constable to the Indian Police Service and wherever suitable men are available they are being taken. Once

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again, Mr. Deputy President let me express my thanks to the Members of this House for the very helpful criticism which they have made this evening."

The cut motion was by leave withdrawn.

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XV—AGENT FOR GOVERNMENT CONSIGNMENTS—RESERVED.

* The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu:—"On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor I beg to move—

'*that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs.* 9,300 *under Demand XV—Agent for Government Consignments—Reserved.*"

* Mr. C. Basu Dev:—"I beg to move—

'*to reduce the allotment of Rs.* 9,600 *for office of the Agent for Government Consignments—Pay of Establishments by Rs.* 100.'

"The object of the cut motion of which I have given notice is to urge on the attention of the Government the need for amending the Madras Port Trust Acts so as to give representation to labour in the Trust Boards of the major ports of this Province. This is not a new question. In 1933, it was raised on the floor of this House and I think the then Law Member, Sir M. Krishnan Nayar, gave an assurance that he would sympathetically consider it. I also understand that the Port Trust Board itself considered this question and came to the conclusion that representation of labour was necessary on the Board. Since then nothing has been heard further about it. We are not aware that any steps are being taken to grant the necessary representation. Sir, the Royal Commission on Labour in its report had definitely recommended that labour ought to be represented in the major Port Trust Boards. At this point of time I need not dilate on the advantages of representation of labour on institutions of this kind. Recently the City Municipal Act was amended and this House granted two seats for labour in the Corporation Council. In the Port Trust itself the latest body that got representation is the Piecegoods Merchants' Association and I do not see any reason why labour should be denied representation which is legitimately its due. Problems of labour in the docks of Madras are in a more aggravated form than those in ordinary factories. The safety of labour in the docks, hours of work and getting work done through contractors are some of the big issues which require to be solved with sympathy and in consultation with the labour representatives. I am glad the Chairman of the Port Trust has been kind enough to recognize the Port Trust Workers' Union and recently there has been a conference between the Chairman and the executive of the Union. Conferences of this type are bound to result in greater peace and harmony between the employers and employees. Organized labour, if recognized, can contribute much to the solution of many problems. I do not want any longer to detain the House. I hope the Hon. the Law Member will consider the question with sympathy and grant us representation at a very early date."

Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari:—" Mr. Deputy President, Sir the question *re* Vadarevu Port is a point I want to bring to the notic of the Hon. the Law Member. Vadarevu was admitted as a port eve when we were having Nizampatam as a port for our district. Nov Nizampatam has also been cancelled. Guntur is a very important dis trict and we have got a lot of exports of produce like groundnut an tobacco; and particularly Vadarevu which is just close to Chirala wher we have got the Imperial Tobacco Company which exports hundreds o tobacco bales will be very convenient."

* The Deputy President:—" The Agent for Government Consign ments is the subject of the demand. We have nothing to do witl exports and imports."

Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari:—" Yes, Sir; I may just explai the relevancy. This Government comes as the agent of the Govern ment of India. I have been discussing the same thing for the pas three years. This is the third time I am bringing the subject befor the House. This subject has been allowed to be discussed twice. Mr. Deputy President, Vadarevu is an important place and the peopl there floated a small concern and constructed small boats, thinking that it will be converted into a port. The Government of India an the Madras Government have not sympathetically treated it; and s they have liquidated it. The Hon. the Law Member should see that the place is converted into a port. It won't cost anything extra. Already there is one port customs officer and he is given two or three police officers and without any extra cost, he can look after the duties. With these observations, I urge on the Law Member the desirability of converting it into a port."

* Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder:—" Mr. Deputy President, if at all I intervene in this debate it is to make a suggestion whether it would not be possible to reduce the expenditure in this behalf. The question is whether it is necessary to run a separate establishment for this purpose. The other day, while discussing the subject of construction of new chambers for the legislatures, I heard a good deal from the various Members of this hon. House that only Indian materials should be used wherever available. I think, Sir, the Government themselves are willing to accept the theory that in all possible cases only Indian-made materials will be utilized. When such is the feeling in the country and the Government are alive to it and are prepared to adopt it, I do not think there is any necessity to have a separate department because the articles required for the Government of Madras from foreign countries cannot be too much and consequently there will not be any appreciable work at the port to receive these things. In the budget, I find a provision is made for an overseer and ten clerks besides paying a subsidy of an appreciable amount of Rs. 3,800 to the Agent for Government Consignments. May I ask the Government, Sir, whether it is quite necessary to have so much of allotment under this head, in view of what I have pointed out now and also in view of the policy of Government that they will use only Indian-made articles

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as much as possible. I therefore request the Government through you, Sir, to see if it is not possible to effect some savings by reducing the establishment to some extent and reducing the contribution to the port authorities in proportion to the work now involved. With these few words, I again request the Hon. the Law Member to examine this question carefully and try to effect any saving that could be made in this matter."

* Khan Bahadur MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB Bahadur:—"Sir, I 4-3 P.M. have to speak on a subject similar to the one raised by my Friend, Mr. Krishnayya Choudari. I think my Hon. Friend, Mr. Jones is dealing with it. There is only one port in South Kanara, namely, the port of Mangalore which is open for only six or seven months in the year. During the six months of the monsoon season, it is closed, and so it is not possible for this port to have any communication with the outside world, although there may be a lot of commodities which have to be exported and imported. Malpe is a natural harbour, and with very little expenditure it can be converted into a pucca harbour, if not into such a good harbour as the Cochin Harbour. It may be made serviceable and useful throughout all the 12 months of the year. I think the Government was once approached on this question, and they seem to have also made some investigation, but on the ground that the cost is very large they have given up the idea. What I submit is that it will be enough if it is made an ordinary port; it need not be a first-class harbour to enable steamers to touch this port during the monsoon season also. If an expert is deputed to investigate and report on its possibilities, I think it will be found that the expenditure is not very large. Mysore is very close to Malpe, and recently I read in the papers that the Mysore Government are going to extend the line to Sagar and that will come close to Malpe. I hope the Government will take up this question and see whether an attempt could not be made in the direction suggested by me with a reasonable expenditure of money."

* The Hon. Sir K. V. REDDI NAYUDU:—"Mr. Deputy President, Sir, the subject of this demand is such a small one that in fact I did not expect these criticisms, and most of the remarks made by hon. Members, I must consider, are foreign to the subject. If I may say so, with great respect, the three speeches made by Mr. Basu Dev, Mr. Schamnad and Mr. Krishnayya Choudari are foreign to this subject. The only relevant speech, if I may say so, is that of my hon. Friend opposite, Mr. Nachiyappa Gounder. However, it is not my desire that I should not give any reply to the other points raised. They were very small ones, and since hon. Members are anxious about them, I should like briefly to answer them. I shall answer last my hon. Friend, Mr. Nachiyappa Gounder.

"Mr. Krishnayya Choudari mentioned about Vadarevu. On that point I may mention that I have obtained information knowing that my friend would raise this question. This question of Vadarevu was

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examined by the Government, and it was found impossible to make this available for foreign trade. This is the note on the subject:

'The port of Vadarevu has not at any time been open to foreign trade either as an experiment or otherwise. There has been an agitation, which is of recent origin, for opening the port to foreign trade. There have been memorials from the "poor labourers," from associations, and from the district board and representations from Members of the Legislative Council both orally and in the Legislative Council.

The opening of Vadarevu for foreign trade was urged on Government generally for the following reasons:—

(a) That there would be consignments of groundnut, tobacco, etc., to be sent from this port to America and other foreign countries. The tonnage of groundnut consignments for export was put at "one lakh and odd tons."

(b) As the producer has now to send his groundnut to Masulipatam for export, he is not getting full value for his produce . . .

On all these occasions, the Government have held the view that there is no case for taking steps to have the port opened for foreign trade. The reasons for this attitude are as follows:—

(1) Necessary facilities for shipment already exist at the ports of Vizagapatam, Cocanada and Madras through which the produce of the Guntur district is being exported.

(2) Government have sunk considerable capital in these larger ports and it is not desirable to take any steps which will have the effect of diverting the trade of these ports to such ports as Vadarevu. It is also uneconomical to divert trade from Madras, Cocanada and Vizagapatam by expending money on the expansion of minor ports when the trading prospects are insufficient. His Excellency the Governor explained the position clearly in his reply to the address presented by the Guntur District Board in July 1934.

(3) There is no recorded anchorage of survey of the port at Vadarevu.

(4) It is quite out of the question to provide at Vadarevu facilities for handling and shipping goods in all weather such as have been provided at great cost at the other larger ports.'

It will therefore be seen that simply because some boats are touching there, it would not be possible to make provision for anything like the reception of big boats that have to deal with foreign trade, and the expenditure that will be involved in it will be out of all proportion to the receipts that could be expected from that port and even out of all proportion to the trade which that port could supply. If there be any difficulty in the matter of sending their goods either to Masulipatam or to Cocanada, it is a matter that could be enquired into."

Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari:—"As a matter of fact, in Nizampatam, we had the facilities."

* The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu:—"The same reasons that apply to Vadarevu will apply to Nizampatam also. I hope I have sufficiently answered my friend's point.

"As regards the question of labour representation which my hon. Friend, Mr. Basu Dev, raised, I entirely sympathise with him, and should be very glad indeed if representation was given on the Board of the Port Trust on behalf of the labourers. But the trouble is that we have no choice as we are at present. The constitution of the existing Port Trust is fixed by the Act, and this Government has no

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opportunity to nominate members to it. What is required is that the Act will have to be amended to make provision for it. (Mr. Basu Dev: 'It is a local Act.') Yes, it is a local Act, but the sanction of the Government of India is required. It is to be remembered that there are only two Port Trusts here; one is Madras and the other is Tuticorin. So far as Vizagapatam is concerned, that is controlled directly by the Government of India. So far as Madras is concerned, we are only agents to the Government of India, because all major ports are under the Government of India. (Mr. Basu Dev: 'The local Government may represent the matter.') I do not see any objection to that, in view of the fact that the Royal Commission has recommended it, and I shall see if anything can be done in that direction.

"Now, Sir, as regards the point of Mr. Schamnad, I may inform him that that question also was very carefully considered by this Government. During my recent visit to the South Kanara district, I specially paid a visit to this port. I halted at Udipi and then paid a visit to this port. I must say that it would be almost impossible to incur the expenditure that would be necessary to make it a real port. Then, Sir, other difficulties also interpose. As the hon. Member, Mr. Schamnad, is fully aware, that district is traversed by such a large number of rivers coming to the sea on the west coast. Unless bridges are constructed on all these rivers, no railway could reach Malpe, and without a railway and without these bridges, the port cannot be developed to an extent which would be said to be paying the interest on the amount that might have to be expended. The expenditure would be so great that it is almost unthinkable that it could be converted into a major port. (Mr. Mahmud Schamnad: 'From Shimoga to Malpe, there is no river at all.') I do not know about Shimoga. So far as this district is concerned, next to Kundapur there is Udipi. If it is to be of any benefit to the district, it must be within the district itself. Whatever it is, the matter has been examined by experts and also by the Government, and I am sorry to say that it is not possible to undertake that.

"Now, Sir, I shall come to the real point which is perfectly relevant to the subject, and that is the criticism of my hon. Friend, Mr. Nachiyappa Gounder. My friend says that there is no necessity for a department of this kind, and the reason he gives for that is that foreign goods should not be imported and if you do not import foreign goods there will be no necessity for this department. Well, Sir, I shall myself be glad to have Indian goods wherever it is possible. As hon. Members are aware, this cannot be given the dignified name of a department. An officer of the port is utilized, and as a part-time engagement he was asked to do certain duties on behalf of the Government. When goods come there, he will have to receive the goods and see that the consignments reach their proper destination. If this office is abolished, the result will be that you will have to entrust it to some private contractor to do the work, and I may assure the hon. Member that in such a case not only will the cost be not any the less

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but the efficiency of the service to the Government would be almost nil. On the other hand, here we have got an officer who is under the Government, and who has been doing the work as cheaply as it is possible under the circumstances. As for the view that Indian goods alone should be purchased, I have already said that I shall be glad to have all Indian goods whenever they are available and wherever it is possible. As my hon. friend has just now said, no one would be more pleased than I to see that wood from the various districts, from Malabar, from Godavari and other places, is utilized in the construction of new buildings for the Houses of Parliament of our province. But hon. Members cannot expect that wood alone is sufficient for all purposes. For instance, we have to get some delicate instruments for use in the General Hospital, or some apparatus that may be required for the Presidency College, or it may be some other material more heavy, more costly, which cannot be had in India and which combines efficiency with utility. It may be that some cheap articles might be made in this country, but it would not be reasonable to expect such goods to be purchased and utilized because in the long run it may cost more and the purpose for which they are intended may not be
45 achieved. Where Indian goods are available at a cost equal to that
n. you have to pay to foreign goods or even at a small percentage of increase in the cost, I will be perfectly willing to get them for our purposes. But where the necessary articles could not be had here, I think it will be too much to expect the Government to drop efficiency and even be prepared to do things in an inefficient manner just for the sake of purchasing Indian goods because in the long run the loss would be greater. This is a small matter; the whole cost is only Rs. 9,300 which is not paid entirely to this officer; he is paid rupees two or three hundred a month in addition to his charge. In such a small matter, I think the hon. Members would not persist in asking for the cut. I hope my hon. Friend will withdraw his motion."

Mr. C. Basu Dev:—" I beg to withdraw."

The cut motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XVI—ELECTRICITY—RESERVED.

* The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu:—" Mr. Deputy President, Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I beg to move—

> ' *That Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,13,02,200 under Demand XVI—Electricity—Reserved.*' "

Mr. T. S. Ramaswami Ayyar:—" Sir, I beg to move that the allotment of Rs. 88,300 for Electricity—Reserved—Hydro electric survey—Pay of officers by Rs. 100. In the budget I find that a provision of about Rs. 113.5 lakhs has been made for 1936–37. The revised estimate for 1935–36 was Rs. 57.14 lakhs. The accounts for

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1934–35 showed an amount of Rs. 27.99 lakhs. That shows that a large provision has been made for Elctricity in the current year, and it is as well that it should be so; for the Electricity department has made very great progress during the past two years, and especially after the introduction of the Hydro-Electric Scheme. Initially starting with the Glen Morgan Scheme, the Pykara Scheme became an accomplished fact, and Government has also launched upon the Mettur Scheme. Meanwhile the Pykara Scheme has also to be strengthened by the Mukurthi Scheme. Government is also helping the northern districts and a few places in the south by the installation of thermal stations. As I said, it is a department where money should be spent, because not only does it confer great advantages on the people but it also brings in money to the Government. Electricity has now become a matter of almost a necessity. Till recently it was considered a luxury. In urban areas it is now considered a necessity—electric lights and fans. In rural areas also people welcome it. I am glad that Government have recognized this and are now launching upon schemes by which many of the out-of-the-way places are to be benefited. But there are one or two points I want to refer to now. As regards the Mettur Scheme, when it was projected I thought that the one place which would be thought of for the purpose of using the electricity that might be generated at Mettur was Madras. I find now that Madras is out of the picture. I even thought that originally when the Pykara Scheme was formulated that the department considered it possible by relay to get current from Pykara to Madras; though there might be losses in the energy during the transit it was considered a possibility. But in any case the Mettur Scheme is certainly a scheme which should help Madras. But as I said, Madras has not been considered as a consumer of electricity supplied by Mettur. I think it is rather unfortunate. I know the answer of Government, that is, that Madras is now able to get an efficient and regular supply from the Madras Electric Supply Corporation, and there has been no complaint hitherto from the public. I admit that, but the question is 'Can you not give current to Madras at a much cheaper rate, if you supply from a hydro-electric station like Mettur instead of from a thermal station which is functioning at Madras?' Government can always indent on the help of the Madras Electric Supply Corporation as a distributive agency. As regards the generation of the current, it is not necessary that this thermal station should continue. Till recently, I think, till about one or two years ago, the Madras Electric Supply Corporation were charging 5 annas per unit; after great agitation and after the interference of the Government, they were able to go into the figures and find out that they could without loss reduce the charge from 5 to 4 annas. Now we are charged 4 annas per unit. If Government would ask the Madras Electric Supply Corporation to take its supply from the Hydro-Electric Scheme at Mettur, I am sure, it will be possible for Madras to get current at a cheaper rate. Madras can certainly be a very good customer; apart from the fact that almost every house and all the Government buildings are fitted with electric installations, where not only

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lights but also fans are used, there are a few industries also in Madras that would purchase this power. Again there is the newly introduced electric system in the South Indian Railway—the suburban railway system. Recently the South Indian Railway Company converted their suburban system from a steam line into an electric line. I am sure with this added quota to the consumption, Madras will be able to guarantee a very good intake which will make it possible for Mettur to go on without any handicap. I therefore suggest for the serious consideration of Government that Madras should be included within the Mettur Electric area.

"As regards the northern districts, there was a suggestion that the Kolab scheme should be tried. Government said after investigation that it would be possible to have this scheme, but now that Kolab is likely to go to the Orissa Province from the 1st April, it will not be a place which will be within the Madras Province. But I think that need not scare us away, because after all, that portion of Orissa where Kolab is situated is a place which has been carved out of the Madras Presidency and it will be possible for us to get into an arrangement with the Orissa Province whereby Madras can have its Hydro-Electric Scheme at Kolab; and this place, if I am not mistaken, is situated within the Zamindari of Jeypore, and I am quite sure that the Maharaja, being a very cultured gentleman, will be very happy to help in the formation of such a scheme. I therefore suggest that Government should not abandon the Kolab Scheme merely from the geographical point of view.

"Again, Sir, there is the Papanasam Scheme. I take it that the Government are going to give effect to it. A combined scheme has been put forward by both the Irrigation and Electricity departments whereby it will be possible for Government to have a scheme which will be paying from the outset. I feel quite confident that Government will give effect to the Papanasam Scheme.

"As regards the Mettur load, the line has been extended from Mettur to the southern districts, and one of the districts that has been included is the district of Tanjore. I find there, Sir, that the line that has been extended to Negapatam was intended among other things, for the supply of energy to the mills there. I am quite sure that the mills have started work, but in any case even if it may take some time for them to start work and the Government are not able to get good customers immediately, Government can think of formulating a scheme for the laying of tram lines along the district board roads. It may look a big scheme but it is not beyond the normal function of the Government and the district board if they could put their heads together. For a long time now people have been agitating for better transport facilities in the rural areas and it is only the other day that this Council sanctioned a big scheme adumbrated by Mr. Vipan in his report for better transport facilities. Government have got a scheme for execution during the course of a few years

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entailing an expenditure of as much as 3½ crores. But when laying roads in the village parts if the Government could conceive of also laying tram lines where an electric line runs along, I think it will, besides giving facilities to the villagers to utilize the current also bring into fruition this idea of laying of tram lines, especially in districts where large fairs are held, where there are holy places which are visited by pilgrims and where market facilities are needed for the agriculturists. In such places, Sir, laying of tram lines means conferring a very great advantage on them. It means facilities for the people for moving about from place to place quickly."

* The DEPUTY PRESIDENT:—"The hon. Member may continue his speech to-morrow."

The Council then adjourned to meet again at 11 a.m. next day.

D. K. V. RAGHAVA VARMA,
Acting Secretary to the Legislative Council.

APPENDIX I.

[*Vide* answer to question No. 987 asked by Mr. V. Nadimuthu Pillai at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 20th March 1936, page 656 supra.]

Statement showing the resettlement commutation rates for paddy and the commutation rates based on the prices of December 1934 to June 1935.

Serial number and name of the district and the year of the introduction of the current resettlement.	Commutation rate on which the current resettlement actually based.	Commutation rate based on the price for						
		December 1934.	January 1935.	February 1935.	March 1935.	April 1935.	May 1935.	June 1935.
	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
Ganjam (1909–15)—								
(Chicacole, Aska and Goomsur)	95							
(Berhampur and Chatrapur)	101	138	135	135	134	133	132	134
2 Vizagapatam (1919–20)	125	142	134	138	135	135	140	145
3 East Godavari (1931–32)	140	157	154	160	165	163	165	167
4 West Godavari (1931–32)	140	174	160	175	180	175	185	190
5 Kistna (1931–32)	140	162	160	167	170	169	175	180
6 Guntur (1904–07)	122							
Ongole (1906–07)	127	176	169	184	183	184	196	202
7 Bellary (1923–25)—								
Black soil (Tungabhadra)	165							
(Non-Tungabhadra)	156	205	211	218	215	214	212	212
Red soil (Tungabhadra)	167							
(Non-Tungabhadra)	159							
8 Trichinopoly (1924–26)	147	193	188	183	195	201	198	200
9 Anantapur (1923–28)—								
Black soil	156							
Red soil	132	195	196	231	219	219	212	202
10 Tanjore (1923–24)	143	188	154	151	172	175	176	164
11 Kurnool (1905–10)—								
Proper	139							
Koilkuntla, Cumbum and Markapur	141 140	191	182	183	187	193	191	197
12 Cuddapah	141	196	190	183	183	186	187	193
13 Chittoor (1912–16)—								
Vayalpad and Madanapalle	126							
Chittoor, Chandragiri	119	175	176	182	186	183	182	189
Palamaner	114							
14 North Arcot (1913–20)	119	193	186	191	198	194	197	209
15 South Arcot (1917–23)—								
Coleroon tracts	140							
Non-Coleroon tracts	129	178	173	173	175	178	179	185
16 Malabar (1931–32 to 1933–34)	148	166	167	167	169	182	193	198
17 Madura (1915–19)—								
Periyar	162							
Non-Periyar	154	240	236	237	245	247	246	255
18 Nellore (1906–07)	127	208	207	204	205	206	209	214
19 Coimbatore (1909–13)	145	223	222	228	240	252	243	247
20 Chingleput (1909–11)	121	183	170	172	172	174	176	187
21 Ramnad (1911–13)	122	199	207	207	214	218	218	222
22 Tinnevelly (1908–12)	122	203	210	198	190	197	192	207
23 Salem—								
Southern taluks (1934–35)—								
I Class source	134							
II Do.	126	203	201	208	213	211	213	213
Northern taluks	103½							
24 South Kanara	150	148	145	145	145	159	164	164

APPENDIX II.

[Vide answer to question No. 988 asked by Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 20th March 1936, page 657 supra.]

Memorandum No. 52426-1/*A*-2, *L. & M., dated 7th December* 1935.
[SUBJECT.—*Boards—East Godavari, West Godavari, Kistna and the Nellore District Boards—Abolition and constitution of new district boards—Notice to show cause against—Issued.*]

The Government consider that it will be in the interests of the local fund administration of the areas concerned that the present local fund districts of East Godavari, West Godavari, Kistna and Nellore be abolished and new local fund districts created with jurisdiction as shown below:—

Name of the existing Local Fund Department.	Names of the Revenue Taluks in the proposed new districts.
I East Godavari	1 (i) Rajahmundry, (ii) Ramachandrapuram, (iii) Amalapuram, and (iv) Razole.
Do.	2 (i) Cocanada, (ii) Peddapuram, (iii) Tuni, and (iv) Pithapuram.
II West Godavari	1 (i) Ellore, (ii) Chintalapudi, (iii) Tadepalligudem, and (iv) Bhimavaram.
Do.	2 (i) Kovvur, (ii) Tanuku, and (iii) Narasapur.
III Kistna	1 (i) Bezwada, (ii) Nandigama, (iii) Tiruvur, (iv) Nuzvid, and (v) Gannavaram.
Do.	2 (i) Bandar, (ii) Divi, (iii) Gudivada, and (iv) Kaikalur.
IV Nellore	1 (i) Kovur, (ii) Kavali, (iii) Udayagiri, (iv) Kandukur, (v) Kanigiri, (vi) Podili, and (vii) Darsi.
Do.	2 (i) Nellore, (ii) Atmakur, (iii) Gudur, (iv) Rapur. (v) Sulurpet, and (vi) Venkatagiri.

2. The Government propose to issue notifications accordingly under sub-section (2) of section 3-A of the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920. With reference to sub-section (4) of the same section, the District Boards

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of East Godavari, West Godavari, Kistna and Nellore are requested, within three weeks of the date of this memorandum to show cause against the proposal.

T. B. RUSSELL,
Secretary to Government.

To the President, District Boards, East Godavari, West Godavari, Kistna and Nellore.

Copies to the Collectors of the districts.

Copy to the Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards.

APPENDIX III.

[Vide answer to question No. 989 asked by Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 20th March 1936, page 658 supra.]

Statement showing the amount of grant paid to the Municipal College, Salem (inclusive of the Secondary Department) under "Ordinary" and "Capital".

Year.	Ordinary.	Capital.
	RS.	RS.
1925–26	6,670	500
1926–27	6,500	976
1927–28	7,664	73
1928–29	7,805	679
1929–30	7,650	944
1930–31	8,050	19,132
1931–32	7,770	8,789
1932–33	7,890	60,259
1933–34	8,050	...
1934–35	8,050	5,280

THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF THE GOVERNOR OF MADRAS.

Saturday, the 21st March 1936.

The House met at eleven of the clock, Mr. President (the Hon. Mr. B. Ramachandra Reddi) in the Chair.

PRESENT:

Venkata Reddi Nayudu, Kt., The Hon. Rai Bahadur Sir Kurma.
Pannirselvam, The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T.
Souter, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., I.C.S., The Hon. Sir Charles.
Bracken, C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S., The Hon. Mr. G. T. H.
Raja of Bobbili, K.C.I.E., The Hon. the.
Rajan, the Hon. Mr. P. T.
Kumaraswami Reddiyar, The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S.
Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur.
Ahmed Meeran Sahib Bahadur, A. M.
Alamelumangathayaramma, Mrs. K.
Annamalai Chettiyar, Mr. S. A. A.
Appadurai Pillai, Diwan Bahadur A.
Basheer Ahmed Sayeed Sahib Bahadur.
Basu Dev, Mr. C.
Dalavoi, Mr. R.
Devadasan, Mr. M.
Dharmalingam Pillai, Rao Sahib V.
Duraiswami Reddiyar, Mr. K. M.
Foulkes, Mr. G. F. F.
Gopalaswami Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur M.
Halasyam Ayyar, Mr. N.
Harischandrudu Nayudu, Mr. A.
Hood, C.I.E., I.C.S., Mr. H. M.
Indrayya, Mr. C.
Iswaran Pillai, Mr. I. C.
Jagannatha Raju, Rao Bahadur G.
Jagannatham, Mr. H. M.
Jayaram Nayudu, Rao Sahib C.
Jones, I.C.S., Mr. C. E.
Kesavaramamurti Nayudu, Mr. K.
Khalif-ul-lah Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur P.
Kolanda Reddi, Rai Sahib C.
Koti Reddi, Mr. K.
Krishnayya Choudari, Mr. P. V.
Krishnamurti, Rao Bahadur D.
Kumararaja of Venkatagiri, The.
Madanagopal Nayudu, Mr. R.
Manikkavelu Nayakar, Mr. M. A.
Moidoo Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur T. M.
Moses, Mr. P. C.
Muhammad Meera Ravuttar Bahadur, K. P. V. S.
Muniswami Pillai, Rao Sahib V. I.
Muthu Chettiyar, Rao Bahadur P. C.
Nachiyappa Gounder, Mr. K. A.
Nadimuthu Pillai, Mr. A. Pl. N. V.
Nanjappa Bahadur, Rao Bahadur Subadar-Major S. A.
Narasa Reddi, Mr. T.
Narasimhaswami, Rao Sahib D. V.
Narayanan Nambiyar, Mr. V. P.
Natesa Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur C.
Palat, Mr. R. M.
Patnaik Mahasayo, Sriman M. G.
Patro, K.C.I.E., Rao Bahadur Sir A. P.
Peddi Raju, Mr. P.
Pocker Sahib Bahadur, B.
Premayya, Mr. G. R.
Rajagopala Pillai, Mr. P. V.
Ramachandra Padayachi, Mr. P. K.
Ramakrishna Reddi, Mr. A.
Ramalingam Chettiyar, Diwan Bahadur T. A.
Ramamurti, Rao Sahib Pandit Ganala.
Raman Menon, Mr. K. P.
Ramaswami Ayyar, Mr. T. S.
Ramaswami Mudaliyar, Mr. V. M.
Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. A.
Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. G.
Ranganatham, Mr. N.
Ratnavelu Thevar, Mr. P.
Reid, Mr. D. M.
Rukmani Lakshmipathi, Mrs. A.
Russell, I.C.S., Mr. T. B.
Sandana Gounder, Mr. I.
Schamnad Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur Mahmud.
Scott Brown, I.C.S., Mr. W.
Sesha Reddi, Rao Bahadur B. P.
Shetty, Mr. A. B.
Simhachalam Pantulu, Mr. G.
Siva Raj, Rao Sahib N.
Smith, Mr. J. M.
Sreshta, Mr. M. S.
Srinivasan, Diwan Bahadur R.
Sriramulu, Mr. G.
Subbarayan, Dr. P.
Subrahmanya Bhatt, Mr. U. C.
Sundara Rao Nayudu, Mr. T.
Syed Tajudin Sahib Bahadur, Khan Sahib.
Thomas, Mr. Daniel.
Uzielli, C.I.E., I.C.S., Mr. H. R.
Vasudeva Pillai, Mr. V. G.
Venugopal Nayudu, Rao Bahadur R. K.
Wright, Sir William.
Yakub Hasan Sahib Bahadur.
Zamindar of Bodinayakkanur, The.
Zamindar of Kirlampudi, The.
Zamindar of Mirzapuram, The.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS

Medical Administration

Maternity cases attended to by the Honorary Physician (male) of the Women and Children Hospital, Mangalore.

* 992 *Q.*—Khan Bahadur MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB Bahadur: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is not a fact that the (male) honorary physician of the Women and Children (Lady Goschen) Hospital, Mangalore, is in charge of the maternity section;

(*b*) how many difficult cases in the maternity ward had to be attended to by the honorary physician which the women medical officers attached to the hospital were not able to perform during the last two years; and

(*c*) in how many such cases the District Medical Officer or the Assistant District Medical Officer was called in to take the place of the honorary physician?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) During the last two years, the Honorary Physician has performed 92 operations of a difficult nature which include three Cæsarean sections. The latter could not be done by lady doctors.

(*c*) The District Medical Officer or Assistant District Medical Officer was not called upon to take the place of the Honorary Physician though this could have been done.

Khan Bahadur MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB Bahadur:—" In view of the fact that the gosha ladies especially object to a male surgeon being put in charge of the maternity wards, may I ask the Hon. Minister to be pleased to appoint a lady doctor in his place? "

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" I may inform the hon. Member that this post was advertised and applications were invited by the Surgeon-General from women doctors, but as nobody was available, a male honorary surgeon was appointed. As soon as a lady doctor becomes available, the Surgeon-General will replace this male honorary surgeon."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" May I know what qualifications had been prescribed by the Government in that advertisement? "

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" Notice."

Khan Bahadur MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB Bahadur:—" Is it not a fact that there are two lady doctors who are competent and have several years' experience of this work in independent hospitals? "

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" It is true that there are two such lady doctors."

Khan Bahadur MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB Bahadur:—"Is it not a fact that the Honorary Surgeon in charge is related to the District Medical Officer?"

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"I do not know."

Strength of the teaching staff of the Government School of Indian Medicine, Madras.

* 993 *Q.*—Mr. M. DEVADASAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many teachers are employed in the Government School of Indian Medicine, Madras;

(*b*) what their qualifications are; and

(*c*) how many of them are gazetted officers?

A.—(*a*) 23.

(*b*) A statement [a] is placed on the table.

(*c*) Only one—The Principal, Indian Medical School.

Diwan Bahadur A. APPADURAI PILLAI:—"Will the Hon. Minister consider the desirability of appointing a gazetted officer to assist the Principal?"

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"As I have said before on the floor of this House, there was a proposal to promote two of the existing men to the gazetted rank and the Government were prepared to promote at least one to that rank. But when the proposal went up to the Finance Committee, they turned it down."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Will the Hon. Minister be pleased to send it up once again to the new committee?"

Industries

Indemnity bonds from parties for boring operations undertaken by the Department of Industries.

* 994 *Q.*—Mr. G. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state with reference to the boring operations by the Department of Industries—

(*a*) whether there is a rule that, if at any stage below 150 feet it is found that the stratum worked through is such as to endanger the safety of the tools, the private party must execute a bond agreeing to indemnify the department for all loss or damage;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that the private party is asked by the department to furnish such an indemnity bond in all cases irrespective of the nature of the stratum worked through; and

(*c*) if so, what are the reasons for insisting on an indemnity bond before it is found that the stratum worked through is such as to endanger the safety of the tools?

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[a] Printed as Appendix I on page 774 infra.

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The answer is in the affirmative.

(*c*) The danger to boring tools is inherent in every sort of stratum, whether sandy, clayey or rocky. An indemnity bond is demanded only when the applicant wishes drilling operations to be continued regardless of loss or damage to the boring set.

Local Self-Government

Budgets of district boards for the year 1936–37.

* 995 *Q.*—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) which of the district boards have so far sent up their budgets for the year 1936–37; and

(*b*) which of these budgets show a surplus or deficit?

A.—A statement* furnishing the required information is laid on the table.

Invitation of tenders by the retiring President of the West Godavari District Board for maintenance works of roads.

* 996 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether representations have been received by the Government alleging the issue of notification on 19th December 1935 inviting tenders for the maintenance works of roads for the next three years in the West Godavari District Board by its retiring President, on or before the 28th of this month, viz., December 1935, with a view to dispose them of before he vacated office on 31st December 1935;

(*b*) if so, what orders have been passed in the matter;

(*c*) whether the President, District Board, or the District Board Engineer is the proper authority for issuing such a notification;

(*d*) by whom such notification has been usually issued in previous years under that District Board; and

(*e*) if there are changes in procedure and practice now, what the reasons therefor are?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Government declined to approve the action of the President, District Board, West Godavari, and informed him that fresh tenders should be invited for the supply of road materials for a period of one year.

(*c*) The President, District Board, or on his behalf the District Board Engineer.

(*d*) & (*e*) The Government have no information.

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* Printed as Appendix II on page 775 *infra*.

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Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI :—" As the Government are insisting that only the lowest tenders should be accepted, may I ask where the necessity is for any cancellation? "

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI :—" If for sufficient reasons the tenders are not accepted, the Government direct that the proper course should be adopted."

Representation of the depressed classes in the cadre of District Panchayat Officers.

* 997 *Q.*—Mr. M. DEVADASAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) what the total number of District Panchayat Officers is; and

(*b*) how many of them belong to the depressed classes and Indian Christians?

A.—(*a*) The total number of District Panchayat Officers as on 1st March 1936 was twenty-nine.

(*b*) One of them is a member of the Indian Christian community and another is a member of the scheduled classes.

Representation of the depressed classes in the cadre of Municipal Commissioners.

* 998 *Q.*—Mr. M. DEVADASAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) what the total number of commissioners appointed for the municipalities is; and

(*b*) how many of them belong to the depressed classes and Indian Christians?

A.—(*a*) The total number of persons appointed as Commissioners up to 1st March 1936 was one hundred and five.

(*b*) One of them was a member of the scheduled classes and twelve were from the Indian Christian community.

Number of panchayat schools in Salem district.

* 999 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER : Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many panchayat schools exist in each of the taluks of Salem district during the current year and what was the number in each year since 1930–31;

(*b*) in how many cases in each taluk, the school grant is pending payment for the current year and what are the names of such panchayats; and

(*c*) what are the reasons for the non-payment of the grant yet in each case?

A.—The Government have no information.

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Arrears of salary due to the elementary school teachers in the Bellary district.

* 1000 *Q.*—Diwan Bahadur M. Gopalaswami Mudaliyar: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the teachers in the elementary schools in the Bellary district have not been paid for several months;

(*b*) how many months' pay is in arrears in the case of these teachers;

(*c*) why it is that such arrears have been allowed to accumulate; and

(*d*) what steps are proposed to be taken to remedy this state of affairs?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) It was reported by the President, District Board, Bellary, in his letter C. No. 157-G, dated the 20th December 1935, that the salaries of teachers were paid up to the end of October 1935. The Government have no further information.

(*c*) For want of funds.

(*d*) The request of the president for the grant of relief in the matter of repayment of loans is under consideration. The board has also been authorized to increase its education-tax from 1½ pies to 2½ pies.

Diwan Bahadur M. Gopalaswami Mudaliyar:—" Sir, the answer furnished to clause (*c*) of the question is 'Want of funds.' Will the Hon. Minister be pleased to issue instructions to see that salaries are not in arrears like this for months together? "

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—" In the past they were not able to pay because they had not the necessary funds. As will be seen from the latter part of the answer to clause (*d*), the Government have recently authorized the board to increase its education tax. As regards the arrears, I believe, they were being carried over since the days of the taluk boards and the district board is not entirely to blame."

Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari:—" May I ask whether the Government have recently issued any Government Order asking the boards not to make any cut in the salaries of the employees? "

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—" The Government have advised the district boards and municipalities that cuts in the salaries should be resorted to only when all other remedies have been exhausted."

Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari:—" May I ask how the district boards can be expected to pay their teachers as per the new scales which were introduced without consulting them or without ascertaining their financial condition? "

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The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—" As far as possible the Government have been seeing that the budgets balance and, in some cases where the district boards are unable to pay at the new rates, a temporary cut has been authorized."

Pay of elementary school teachers in the employ of district boards and municipalities.

* 1001 *Q.*—Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) the names of the district boards and municipalities where the higher and lower scales of pay for elementary school teachers have been introduced as per G.Os. No. 5096, L. & M., dated 7th December 1933, and No. 749, L. & M., dated 25th February 1935, in the Presidency;

(*b*) the names of boards and municipalities in which cuts have come into force for elementary school teachers since 1935 and the percentage of cut; and

(*c*) the names of district boards and municipalities which have submitted a deficit budget of Elementary Education Fund for 1935-36; and what the total deficit is?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The Government Orders were advisory and the Government therefore have not got full information.

(*c*) Particulars are not readily available. The Government do not consider that any useful purpose will be served by collecting them.

Mr. K. KOTI REDDI:—" May I ask whether the district boards are bound to pay according to the new scales or is it optional? "

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—" As regards the municipalities, we have drawn up two scales of pay, one higher and the other lower, and the municipalities have been given the option to adopt either of the two. As regards district boards, where it is shown that a particular board is unable to meet the increased obligation, the Government are prepared not to insist on the application of the new scale."

Mr. K. KOTI REDDI:—" May I know what the Government propose to do in cases where, after introducing the new scales, the pay is cut down by a certain percentage? "

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—" But even then, even if a cut is made, the elementary school teachers stand to gain."

Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI:—" May I ask the Hon. the Chief Minister whether, on the analogy of the municipalities, the Government are prepared to fix another scale of pay so that the district boards may have the option to choose whichever they like taking into account their own financial condition? "

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—" In the case of the municipalities it has been found that the scales of pay are generally higher

than those in the district boards. For them we have issued tw(alternative scales of pay, one higher and one lower. As regard(the district boards, the scales fixed are already low and Govern ment consider that in view of the importance of elementar education, these scales do not at all err on the side of generosity."

Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI:—"May I ask whether th Government are prepared to make any contribution from provincia funds to help those district boards that are not able to find money fc a reasonable scale of pay?"

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"In some cases, to assist the di trict boards, as I stated, we have sanctioned temporary cut in tl salaries and in other cases we have authorized an increase in tl education tax. That means that the Government contribution w be proportionately increased."

Khan Bahadur MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB Bahadur:—"May I whether it is compulsory for the district boards to adopt the new sca of pay?"

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"I have already answered t question."

Effect of the introduction of the revised scale of pay of Element School teachers on the Elementary Education Fund of dist boards.

* 1002 *Q.*—Mr. A B. SHETTY: Will the Hon. the Minister Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) which of the district boards have introduced the new sc of pay laid down by Government for elementary school teachers;

(*b*) what extra expenditure this has caused in the annual sa bill of each Board; and

(*c*) how it has affected the Elementary Education Fund budg each case?

A.—Attention is invited to the answer to question No. 1001 ans on the 21st March 1936.

[*Note.*—**An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.**]

II.—BUDGET FOR 1936-37—VOTING OF DEMANDS FOR GRANTS

DEMAND XVI—ELECTRICITY—RESERVED—*cont.*

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The House will continue th cussion of Demand XVI—Electricity."

Mr. T. S. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"Sir, yesterday I was ref to the possibility of Government having tramway lines construc district board roads where electric current is available in plen the consumption is rather poor. I pointed out that it would sol problem of transport in the rural areas. In rural areas, when

anxious that the agriculturist should get the best price and should be able to send his goods to the best market, it is absolutely necessary that transport facilities should be improved. It is almost certain that in the present financial condition of the railways the Railway Board will not undertake any new project for some years to come. We should not therefore be expecting any help in that direction from the Central Government. It is up to this local Government, in the circumstances, to think of other ways of improving the transport facilities in rural areas. I suggest therefore the construction of tramway lines for the serious consideration of the Government. I understand that the Cochin Government have laid tramway lines for about fifteen miles or so. It may be contended that the capital expenditure may be high. I have not looked into the figures to find out whether the capital expenditure will be very high. But I feel that if a scrutiny is made, it will not be beyond the capacity of the Government, with the co-operation of the local boards to put a scheme through. It may be tried in one or two districts, and if found profitable, it may be extended to the other districts.

" Again, Sir, the Government should explore more uses for the electric current in rural areas. It has been recognized that this province is mainly an agricultural province. During recent years, owing to the depression, agriculture has ceased to pay and, unless industries are developed and unless occupation during spare hours is given to the agriculturists, it will not be possible to lift them out of the very difficult position in which they find themselves. A committee went into the question of improving cottage industries and has sent a report. I am not quite sure if the recommendations of that committee have been taken advantage of by the Government. I am adverting to this, Sir, for this purpose that if cottage industries can be developed in this province, it can only be done with the aid of electricity. Cheap electricity supplied by the State, I am confident, is a panacea for all the ills we are now suffering from. For one thing it will supply cheap power. In the rural areas it is not possible for an agriculturist to invest large sums of money on industries, but there are a number of small industries which could be developed if only cheap power is delivered in the villages themselves. I referred on a former occasion to some of the cottage industries which could be so developed. For example, Sir, we have the button industry. In villages the bones and horns of animals that die simply go to waste. While foreign countries 11-1[illegible]
are sending buttons made out of horns and bones to this country, we are a.m.
purchasing them here. If a cottage industry for button making could be developed, buttons could be manufactured in many villages where raw materials are available and where for want of a lead, the whole thing goes to waste. I suggest, Sir, if Government take the co-operation of these three departments, viz., Agriculture, Co-operative and Industries, I think it will be possible to solve this problem. A co-operative society can be started in the village for cheap electric power to be supplied in the village and this society can take the load from the Government transmission line. On a co-operative basis there can be a button factory. As

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soon as the question of supplying cheap power is solved, all other difficulties will vanish. It is not possible to get steam or oil engines started in the villages, but if power is going to be given to the co-operative society and if we have the necessary raw materials in the villages for the preparation of buttons, the co-operative society can take the load from the Government at favourable rates and manufacture the products and put the finished products on the market and get some money out of them. For example, take the case of the hand-loom weaving industry. This industry had been existing for years and it was giving occupation to many of our agricultural people during off season and to the weaver community during the whole year. But this industry has died because of competition with mills. It looks as though that, in spite of the attempts which the Government make, this industry is not likely to revive unless a bold forward policy is started by the Government. It is therefore necessary that cheap electricity should be supplied by the State. If the hand-loom weaver can be persuaded to use cheap electricity, he will be able, I am quite sure, to compete with mills and factories. Again, Sir, it is not only these industries but there are very many things that can be so developed. The development of cottage industries with power supplied by the Government at cheap rates will not only solve the industrial problem but will also solve the unemployment problem. The unemployment problem is a very huge one and I think people are now, as it were, sitting at the foot of the volcano. We feel confident that everything is going on well, while discontent is growing day by day on account of unemployment. That I think will be solved if industries can be started with the help of cheap electric power. The supply of cheap electrical power will also be helpful in bringing peace between the labourer and the capitalist. In mills there is always fight between the capitalist and the labourer and if we give cheap electric power, a few labourers can join together and start small industries with the help of cheap electricity supplied to them and be themselves capitalists. It may to some extent solve the problem of labour versus capital. All my arguments go on the premises that the power that is supplied by the Government will be cheap. If it is not going to be cheap, there is no point in trying these experiments. I feel that Government should look into this matter and find out how cheaply they could give electric power especially in rural areas. Yesterday I was referring to the question of Madras getting the current from Mettur and one hon. Member remarked that even now if Pykara power is supplied to Madras, it could be supplied only at the rate at which Madras gets its current at the thermal station here. If that is so, I will not call it very advantageous. If hydro-electric power is not going to be cheaper than the power supplied by thermal stations, I do not know how we can say that hydro-electric power is of great advantage to us. I am quite sure, if this problem is looked into and Government scrutinizes the whole question, that electric current could be supplied at even cheaper rates than at present. Fortunately this Presidency has been endowed by nature with a bountiful supply of natural sources of water. By the development of hydro-electric power

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we get rid of the problem of oil and coal. We know the oil problem has become, as it were, a serious problem and it is even feared that the present oil squabble might soon develop into a world war. It is no wonder that they tread delicately around the oil problem at Geneva. The question of oil sanctions has brought up to the forefront the question of oil supplied to the world by America. It is expected that the supply which America gives and which comes to 70 per cent of the world supply will be exhausted in 30 years or so. Of course there is Iraq that supplies oils. In any case even if the supply of oil is not exhausted, there are other nations who will look to the supply of coal, and even with regard to that, there is no unlimited supply. That is why in other countries attempts are being made to create power out of air or water, but we are not able to do such things. It is therefore that nature has endowed us with great gifts and it is up to us to develop these resources and make this Presidency self-sufficient with regard to the supply of power.

"I am glad that Government have realized the importance of electricity and one great feature that I find during last year and perhaps the previous year is the permission given to include in the budget block grants so that the Electrical Engineer may come forward with any scheme at any time and need not wait till it is voted by the Finance Committee or the Legislative Council. I think this is a very good move and more power should be given to the Electrical Engineer in that direction.

"In the end I desire before I sit down to congratulate the Hon. the Law Member on being in possession of very great power which will be useful to the Presidency and it is now the duty of the Government to utilize that power to their utmost so that the country may be benefited. Major Howard and his subordinates who have spared no pains in developing the hydro-electric scheme deserve our thanks. At the same time I would urge that much more attention should be paid by the Government to make electricity as cheap as possible and make it available in as larger quantities as possible throughout the Presidency. Attempts in that direction should be made and we should not merely feel glad that Madras has made great strides in the department of electricity but see that cheap electricity is brought to the villager's door."

*Diwan Bahadur T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar:—"Sir, the policy of the Electricity department is now being scrutinized by a committee recently appointed by the Government. Sir, while I do not want to anticipate what that committee may or may not recommend, I think it is necessary that the Government and the people should realize the very great importance of the issues involved in the several matters referred to that committee. Sir, just now we have heard that we are in a fortunate position, because we have got some sources of electrical power and they can be utilized for the good of the country as a whole. Sir, at the same time, even here both the sources of power and also the way in which that power can be utilized are not inexhaustible. It is

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mainly of a monopolistic nature that we have got this power entrusted to the Government of this Presidency. It is necessary that the Government should realize that responsibility and should not allow private interests to be established and come as an impediment to the proper use of the power in the interests of the people. Well, Sir, I should impress, with all the ardour that I can command, on the Government that they should seriously consider the question of granting licences to private people especially when power from hydro-electric sources are to be distributed.

" Once these private interests come into existence, it will be very difficult indeed to make them serve the public purpose. Naturally a private concern looks for profits and if a profit-earning company is started either for generating or for distributing electric power, generally it may be said that the public interests may not be served as well as they would be otherwise served. I would therefore impress on the Government the need for reserving all the power that they possess at the present moment, both for generation and distribution of electricity, in their own hands and not easily give them away to persons, however importunate they may be for their own private gains. As I said, the matter is under investigation by a committee and I do not want to go further into that matter. But with regard to the rates that are being charged for the consumption of electric power from Government sources I ought to say a word or two. As I said just now, the Government is a trustee. The Government is not merely a profit-earning corporation. Under those circumstances while the Government as custodians of the interests and the finances of the country should not work the whole scheme at a loss, I should think that they must at the same time so arrange that the benefits of the scheme should reach the several interests of the country, even though it may be that
10 some interests gain more than others. I have been pressing on the
a. Government that they should look upon the question of the use of electric power for agriculture in a way different from what they are doing at present. Sir, the Pykara scheme as a whole is making a profit and we are glad that by the work of the special engineer a fillip has been given to industrial expansion in some parts of our Presidency and that we have greater demands for power than we anticipated with the result that the scheme is making a profit much sooner than we anticipated. Now the question is whether we ought to say that our supply to each and every concern should pay its way. I do not think that the Government should take such a narrow view of the matter. They will have to look upon the scheme as a whole and consider whether they are losing or making a profit out of the whole scheme. Looking at it from that standpoint we are making a profit already. If therefore we request the Government to reduce the rates which they are at present charging for power used for agricultural purposes, certainly Sir, it is not an unreasonable request. The Government should not say that the cost for this particular purpose will be so much and therefore the people concerned should pay more. How they arrive at the cost at

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the present moment is like this. Suppose someone wants a low-tension supply to his well. The cost of the transmission line from the main line to the well is taken into account. Interest at 6 per cent or 9 per cent on that cost is calculated and the cost that is so arrived at it is also charged to the consumer in assessing the general rate for agricultural purposes. This, Sir, I beg to submit, is not the proper way to do it at all. The transmission line and the other things are there and they are not justified in charging the cost of those lines to the particular well for which the power is needed. If some concession is shown to these people and lower rates charged to them, I am sure several agriculturists will be able to take power and immensely benefit by the use of the power. I want the Hon. the Law Member to see that more use is made by the agriculturists of this power and that he enables them to make this use. I have already told the Chief Engineer and proved to him that the cost of pumping water with the help of electric power is a little more than the cost of pumping by using oil power at the present moment. The answer he gave me was that the oil companies had reduced their prices for oil within these two years—the price of oil is 50 per cent of what it was some time ago—and we cannot say whether they might not raise it again to the same level as before. All the same, Sir, at the present moment people are able to generate power at a lower cost than the rate at which electric power is sold to them. Secondly, Sir, as a matter of helping the agriculturists, the Government should show some concession. I do not want, Sir, that the whole scheme should be worked at a loss. I only want to know why, when the whole scheme is working at a profit, a part of the power generated by it should not be given to the agriculturists at a lower rate. It must also be remembered, Sir, that the rate we ask for in this connexion is not lower than the rate at which power is supplied to big factories. The big factories get their power at 5 or 5½ pies per unit and all that we are asking is that agriculturists should get their power at 6 pies a unit. I was sorry that the other day in answer to an interpellation the Hon. the Law Member said that in the adjoining state of Mysore the rate charged for electric power used for agricultural purposes might have been reduced for political purposes."

The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu :—" That was not the word I used."

Diwan Bahadur T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar :—" 'Political purposes' were the words."

The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu :—" It is not correct, Sir."

* Diwan Bahadur T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar :—" 'Political' was the word, I distinctly remember."

The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu :—" No, Sir. Please look into the report."

* Diwan Bahadur T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar :—" Whatever it might have been, I am sorry that he should have taken that attitude in the matter."

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The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu:—" When I deny I used that word, how is the hon. Member justified, Mr. President, in pursuing the matter? "

* Diwan Bahadur T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar:—" I am not pursuing it, Sir. I am only saying that in the neighbouring State of Mysore the rate charged for power used for agricultural purposes is six pies per unit and they know that agriculture deserves that concession. I do not see, Sir, why our Government here in Madras, especially when they are making a large profit on the whole scheme, should not come forward and reduce the rate to the same extent. I request the Hon. the Law Member to consider the matter again and make power available to the agriculturists at a cheaper rate, or at least reduce the rate charged to that which is being charged in the adjacent State of Mysore.

" Sir, something was said with regard to the use of electric power for handicrafts for cottage industries. Unfortunately the question arises there whether the use of electric power for that purpose will always be advantageous. Our difficulty in the villages is that the people have little or no work. Therefore any addition to the power already used, whether it be in the shape of a rice-huller or a power-loom, has the effect of throwing out of employment manual labour. If we produce more things than we produce at present by the use of power, since there is no market for the extra articles produced, the result is a lot of people are thrown out of employment. Our manual labour is so cheap that it is not always safe to introduce power. No doubt we hear that in Japan in almost every cottage power-looms are being worked and that they are able to manufacture cloths at a very cheap cost. But so far as we are concerned, both with regard to the textiles and other cottage industries our difficulty is the absence of markets. If we produce goods at a more rapid rate, how are we going to market them? (An hon. Member: 'Stop foreign imports.') I may say, Sir, that I have gone into this question of textiles a little minutely just now and I may tell the House that Japanese yarn is sold here at about Rs. 1–8–0 cheaper a bundle than the local yarn. Therefore the ordinary weaver who takes the ordinary local mill yarn will have to pay one-third more for it than for the Japanese yarn. And it is well known that in the making of cloth the price of yarn comes to about two-thirds of the price of the cloth. Therefore the question has been raised whether we ought not to go in for the Japanese yarn in preference to the local yarn."

Mr. T. S. Ramaswami Ayyar:—" You despair of the hand-loom weaver then."

* Diwan Bahadur T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar:—" We are trying to help him and it is only in the course of doing that that we find this difficulty. We have more man-power than we can use and we find great difficulty in finding a market for the things we already produce. If with the help of electric power and other machinery we are able to

increase our production, whether we will be able to find a market for the increased production is the question. Even if the charges are reduced for the power that is given to the weaver, we will have to pay something for it; but for the man-power that we are using there is no additional cost, because the man has to be maintained anyhow. That seems to be the difficulty. Therefore the introduction of power into cottage industries would mean some additional unemployment and not additional work for people. We are therefore working in a vicious circle. If we want to reduce the cost of goods manufactured we must use power; but if we use power a number of people are thrown out of employment. While trying to get employment for a few and better living for a few more, a lot of others will be thrown out of employment. It is a vicious circle. It requires a lot of individual consideration in each industry and then there should be proper organization both in the sphere of production as well as in the sphere of marketing.

" Sir, these are the few remarks which I have to make. I may also remind the Hon. the Law Member of his promise that the question of rates for larger supplies would be also gone into by the Chief Engineer and request that he would consider it. I would ask him to kindly ask the Chief Engineer to expedite his consideration of that matter also and see his way to reduce the rates charged for bulk supply as well as for agricultural purposes very soon."

* Diwan Bahadur A. Appadurai Pillai :—" Mr. President, Sir, I should say that the Electricity department is one of the branches of Government in which it is difficult to pick holes. The report published by the department shows a record of very useful work done during the year. I believe Members of this hon. House will only welcome further progress in the direction in which progress has been maintained already. There are one or two directions in which the work can be concentrated in the Electricity department and I would with your permission, Mr. President, place them before the House. Sir, the Government have realized the necessity for taking over the management of the production and distribution of power in their own hands. Enquiries have been made and I believe, statistics have been collected and the whole matter is receiving the careful consideration of the Government. It is very desirable, Sir, in the interests of progress and efficiency of distribution that the whole management is taken over under the control of the Government. Sir, we have seen that the municipalities which have taken licences for the distribution of electric power have not managed things satisfactorily. The Chief Engineer in charge of the Electricity department has given a very doleful account of the indifference, want of experience and co-ordination on the part of the municipal councils in dealing with the distribution of electric energy. Then, Sir, the private licensees also have fared worse. Therefore it behoves the Government boldly to lay down a scheme by which the management and distribution of all the energy will be under the control of Government who will be aided by a responsible advisory body in advising them as to what action should be taken from time to

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time and how the consumption of electricity should be increased. Sir, a great deal remains to be done in developing the agricultural load and the industrial load. Something has been attempted in this direction as we see from the report of the Electricity department.

-45 .m. " It is stated here that the agricultural load is increasing in a very encouraging manner. These are the words: ' There has been a very marked growth in the rural pumping load. At the beginning of the year there were eight consumers totalling 60·5 h.p., whereas at the end of the year the number of consumers was about 100. It is anticipatec that the total number of the rural pumping consumers should reach 20(by the end of 1935–36.' My humble submission is that the number o 200 consumers that is anticipated is too little considering the enormou demand that is placed on the Electricity department by the agricultu rists of the province. Take for instance the district of North Arcc which has about 25 per cent of the total number of wells in th province. In North Arcot there are only river-fed channels or rain-fe tanks. It is rather difficult to get reliable supplies from these sourc of irrigation. Therefore the ryots have been put to the necessity sinking a large amount of capital in well-sinking. It is calculated th not less than 4 crores of rupees have been sunk in the district of Nor Arcot alone for the purpose of sinking wells. A sum of Rs. 3 cror was spent over the development of the Mettur project. Here a sum Rs. 4 crores has been spent by the rural population for the purpose sinking wells. I ask whether it is not the duty of Government to g relief to these poor ryots who cannot get on like this for a long tir Now that electricity is available, cannot the Government give th electric energy so that agricultural load might be appreciably increase That is my first proposition. Every endeavour should be made by Electricity department to push through the agricultural loads. number of 200 consumers which is expected by 31st March 1936 is I submit an adequate increase. If we give the agriculturists ch electric power, I feel no doubt they would use it to a much lar extent; now they are depending entirely upon lift irrigation. Inst of there being only 200 rural pumps, even if there were 2,000 pump would barely satisfy the agricultural needs.

" The next point with which I wish to deal is the industrial lo Something has been done to attract the industrial demand for ele city. There is a paragraph which the Chief Engineer for Electr has put in his very interesting report which I should like the H to hear: ' Small factories have taken to electric drive and i believed that electric drive will soon be popular with cottage indus and result in a certain amount of industrial decentralization.' point is that something tangible should be done in order to encou the distribution of energy to small industries. My hon. Fr Mr. Ramaswami Ayyar, has already stressed the necessity of he small scale industries and handicrafts. I shall be failing in my if I do not add my voice to that of my hon. Friend. Small industries require attention and it is time that we increase these i tries to a very large extent. Japan is forging ahead. I find

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interesting reference to Japan's industries in the report of the Director of Industries for the past year. It is a very pertinent remark and I think I should invite the attention of the House to it. The Director of Industries stated 'it is by no means generally realized that Japan is largely a country of small industries and handicraft units and that large units are not predominant in Japan. Small family enterprises are in fact a feature in Japanese industry, and I cannot help thinking that the reasons for the survival of small units in Japan at a time when small scale industries are fast disappearing in the west would repay careful study, and that the organization and technique of the cottage and small scale industries of Japan must have many lessons for those in India who are applying their minds to the problem of the development of rural industries in this country.' I cannot sufficiently impress upon the Electricity department the necessity for supporting small scale industries in such a manner as to be in a position to compete even to a very small extent with the enterprises in Japan. We all know how Japan is dumping its goods at astoundingly small prices in the Madras market. A pair of socks can be had for one anna; a fountain-pen with a magnet at the top can be had for one anna; toys can be had for the mere asking; there is a half-anna bazaar and one-anna bazaar of Japanese goods. Japan has been able to sell toys at astoundingly cheap rates. The secret of it is given here; it is due to small scale industries being encouraged by the Government of Japan. I appeal to the Hon. the Law Member, now that abundant electricity is available, to concentrate attention on small scale industries. To quote a few instances, bone-crushing for the purpose of preparing the bone-meal has been found to be very difficult because we require high power engines and propellers to crush bone. If electricity can come to the help of this industry, it will yield very good result and one can manufacture bone-meal which is so essential for the purpose of manuring. Then there is sugarcane crushing. If sugarcane crushing can be encouraged in Madras by use of electric power, jaggery can be sold in the bazaars at very cheap and profitable rates. This will be a very useful, subsidiary handicraft to the agriculturists. Button-making was referred to by Mr. Ramaswami Ayyar. There are numerous other small cottage ndustries which stand to gain by the use of electricity. A paragraph n the *Madras Mail* of the 13th instant, attracted my attention, which hows the enterprising nature of the Mysore Province. It refers o the curing of tobacco by means of electricity for the purpose of naking cigarettes. One can hardly imagine what electricity cannot do. Iere is an instance where the Mysore Government is forging ahead, o use electricity at its disposal in all possible ways for the development f the industries of that province. Mr. G. Appadurai Mudaliyar Industrial Engineer to the Mysore Government) refers to this experinent thus: 'Portable curing barns, measuring 20 feet cube, were eing experimented with. They were capable of taking 5,000 lb. of reen leaves at a time. Curing tobacco with electricity as the heating nedium was also being tried and if they succeeded in doing that, the

author believed Mysore would be the first in the world to do so.' Every other country will be the first in the world in such matters, except Madras.

"Knitting of banians is being carried on a very large scale in Salem and Coimbatore districts. The tendency of people in this Presidency is if one man takes to a particular industry, all others follow sheeplike in that direction. Knitting banians seems to have caught the imagination of the people; there are knitting machines set up in Salem and Karur. If cheap electricity is supplied, this cottage industry will develop very quickly and it will be firmly established in this province. There is also the manufacture of matches. Our country is full of potentialities with reference to oil-seeds. Oil-crushing for domestic and culinary purposes, for medicine, perfumery and for a variety of purposes, is full of promise. If electricity can be used for oil-crushing on a large scale, it will be a profitable concern; the industry will be very much encouraged. A number of oil-crushers—checkus as they are called—have been set up in the city of Madras and several chekku owners take electric energy from the Electric Supply Corporation of Madras at a very small rate. They are able to crush gingelly oil, groundnut, etc. The oil is sold to people like hot cakes at the door of the manufacturer. If electric power is supplied to these oil-crushers, this cottage industry will improve very much.

"For the development of electricity, the co-operation of the various departments of Government is absolutely necessary. I am glad to find a reference to it in the report of the Chief Engineer for Electricity; he hints at the necessity for co-operation between various departments of Government, in order to develop electricity and to make it really useful. The Chief Engineer states that 'the co-operation of other Government departments in extending the use of electricity is most earnestly invited.' That statement deserves very careful consideration. How can this co-operation be effected? Co-operation can be effected between the Electricity department and the Agricultural department in this way. The Agricultural department has experimental farms at Samalkot, Palur, Aduturai, and other places. If it is possible for the agricultural experts to devote a portion of these farms for raising a specific crop and to get some wells fitted up with electric pumps, it will be possible for the ordinary ryot who is generally of a conservative nature, to copy this example and benefit by it. Merely lecturing to the people 'you had better use electricity and it would benefit your land' will be of no good. People want demonstration; there are many experimental farms and if a portion of them could be utilized for demonstration purposes, it will benefit the ryots. If the co-operation of the Agricultural department is taken up in that and other directions, it will be very useful. The Agricultural department has experts to go about lecturing to the people on improved methods of cultivation. If the Agricultural Demonstrators who visit the villages in their tours

and carry on propaganda inform the ryots that electric energy is available at cheap rates and they can fit up their wells with electric pump for irrigation purposes, there will be increasing demand for electric energy.

" There is another direction in which co-operation can be effected 12
for instance, in the Industries department. The Industries department noon
is already conducting what is called pump irrigation. It is doing the work which can very well be done by means of electricity. The department has now got oil engines to help the ryots to lift water. Three of the sets are working in the Central Jail at Trichinopoly continuously pumping out water from wells for use in the jails. This is the statement made by the Director of Industries in the report of the Industries department. If these three sets which are working in the Trichinopoly jail for supplying water to the inhabitants are released and electrical energy takes their place, the sets will be available for the ryots until in the long run the ryots themselves take to electricity for the purpose of lift irrigation. These engines and pumps which are being maintained at enormous cost in the Industries department can be dispensed with in course of time by the substitution of electrical energy. This is the sort of co-operation which I would contemplate with reference to the development of electricity on proper lines.

" Another point on which I would like to lay special emphasis is the freedom from unnecessary interference in the matter of recruitment to the staff of the Electricity department. The Chief Engineer makes repeated reference to this matter in his report. I wish to know whether the attention of Government has been drawn to that statement. He says: 'If only the procedure for the recruitment of the employment of staff could be simplified and more liberty accorded to the Chief Engineer in the administration of the department, greater economy in administration would be possible.' This red tape, in the administration of a commercial department, must be put a stop to. I hope, Sir, that the Hon. the Law Member would take courage in both hands and face this question and relax the administrative red tape with reference to the staff necessary for a commercial department like the Electricity department. If the power of recruitment is placed in the hands of the Madras Service Commission, probably it will be a very long time before the necessary staff could be recruited

" Lastly, Sir, I come to the question of charges. I do not think it is possible for us to get on with the present rates. In the reply given to an interpellation made by my friend Diwan Bahadur R. Srinivasan, it seems clear that the cost of manufacturing a unit of electrical energy has been decreasing gradually from the year 1930, from 1·24 annas to 0·89 anna. If that is the case with reference to the Madras Electric Supply Corporation, it will be much cheaper in the case of energy produced by water-power. If it is cheaper, will Government, without wasting any further time, reduce the rate from one anna, and imitate the Mysore Government and charge half an anna straightaway? I do not think it is necessary for me to labour the point further.'

(At this stage the Deputy President occupied the Chair.)

[*Mr. A. Appadurai Pillai*] [*21st March 1936*

"The Hon. the Law Member is absolutely conversant with the present rates and the other factors, and I hope he will reduce them very considerably, in order to make electrical energy handy for the agriculturists and industrialists, especially the small scale manufacturers. With these few remarks, Sir, I commend the cut motion of Mr. T. S. Ramswami Ayyar to the attention of the Hon. the Law Member."

Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI:—"I just want to bring to the notice of the Law Member a few facts. Recently, the Government have issued a questionnaire to various persons. I suggest the Government should take the control of electricity supply themselves. If that is done, the profits will go to the general exchequer of the Government and at the same time, we can have as low rates as possible. Moreover, at present there are several private concerns running this business; let them take to other industries and other lines of business. There are many such businesses which they can take up and which will be in the national interests, and a lot of money which is now being given as State aid can very well be saved. I therefore think, Sir, that the Government should themselves take up the control and supply of electricity. When once the distribution and generation of electricity are taken up, they can allow the municipalities to be in charge of the work in regard to municipal areas; and in the case of local bodies which are not financially well off, they can get some additional revenue out of this. If, however, any municipality or local body is not willing to take up this work, then it can be given to a private concern. There are some private companies without sufficient capital to run the concerns, with the result that they are not working efficiently. I do not want to mention their names, as I am likely to be misunderstood. Such companies are not able to extend their activities, with the result that the people in the locality are placed under a great disadvantage. As a matter of fact, the Cement Factory which is now working at Coimbatore, should have been started in Bezwada; they selected that place for starting the factory because they have got limestone there and the Singareni collieries are also near, so that they can get coal at considerably cheap rates; but for want of electrical energy, the company had to go to Coimbatore. Thus, the people of Bezwada have not been able to get the benefit which they would otherwise have got. Coimbatore has attracted that cement factory purely because there is cheap electricity available there. So, I suggest that electricity should be made available in the Telugu country also.

"My Friend Mr. Nachiyappa Gounder has suggested in his cut motion No. 803 that thermal stations should not be started any more, probably because the Tamil country has already had a monopoly of electricity, and therefore there is no more need for electricity in the Tamil districts. When it is said that the Telugu areas should have thermal stations, my friend immediately says that there is no need for them. I want to bring to your notice, Mr. Deputy President, and to the notice of the House that up to date we have spent about Rupees 1,15,06,627, on the Pykara hydro-electric scheme (i.e., up to 1935–36), Rs. 4,36,721 on the Mettur-Erode-Salem scheme, Rs. 17,48,255 on the Coimbatore-Nilgiris distribution scheme, Rs. 1,27,231 on the Palni extension scheme, and Rs. 1,32,545 on the Dindigul thermal scheme.

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When the last item came up for discussion at the time of the Budget demands in 1933–34, my friend kept quiet, in spite of the fact that the thermal scheme was not paying at that time. He has been a member of this House since 1930, and still he did not object to the thermal station at the time it came up before the House. Again, in regard to the Virudunagar thermal station, we have spent Rs. 1,46,782. I do not know why my friend kept quiet when that question came up before the House. In regard to the Palni scheme, we have spent Rs. 63,893, and that is also a thermal scheme. On the whole, the total sum that we have spent on these electricity schemes in the Tamil districts comes to nearly Rs. 2,03,34,473. When now it is proposed to spend about Rs. 30 lakhs for a thermal station at Vizagapatam and about Rs. 20 lakhs for another at Bezwada, my friend comes forward and says that thermal stations won't be paying. Probably my friend will say that we have now gained some experience; but what is the experience gained, I want to know. The accounts published by the Government do not show which thermal stations are paying and which thermal stations are not paying; I cannot therefore understand how my friend can say that these thermal stations will not be paying. Probably he thinks so, because they are not to be near Salem, and Bezwada is far away from Salem. At the same time, he has given notice of some cut motions for impressing on the House the necessity for providing additional funds for the improvement of the Salem-Mettur scheme. I suggest, Sir, that under these circumstances, the hon. Member from Salem should sympathize with and support our cause without any more criticism. I feel no doubt that he will support the Telugu cause, when his turn for speaking comes. I also suggest that a thermal station should be started at Vizagapatam, and another at Bezwada; a third station is also necessary for the Ceded districts at some central place.

"Last year, Sir, if I remember aright, we were supplied with some 12-
pamphlet by the department indicating how far the Mettur Hydro- p.m
electric scheme could be extended. It was indicated in that pamphlet that the scheme could be taken up to Chittoor and Madras and not beyond that. Sir, it is also necessary that we should have a thermal station at Bezwada so that Guntur and West Godavari also might benefit thereby. I want to know whether Guntur is going to be tacked on to Bezwada and if that is not going to be done, I would suggest that a separate thermal station be started at Guntur Why I suggest Guntur as a suitable place is, there is a big factory, there is the Imperial Tobacco company for tobacco curing and there is also a very big demand for tobacco there. Unfortunately, Government have sanctioned the extension of the scheme to Guntur, though it has not taken any definite shape so far. If they are going to start thermal stations themselves, I do not know why they themselves should create trouble and obstruction in the way of their own programmes.

"Here I would like to mention another fact. If Government themselves are going to take up a large number of electric stations, why should we continue Mr. Howard, the Chief Engineer, on a contract basis for five years? And why not fix him up as Chief Engineer on

a permanent basis instead of renewing his contract every five years? If he is not prepared, of course we can make other arrangements. He has trained enough men and his experience is very valuable—I do not dispute that. It would of course be better to have him on a permanent basis on some scale of pay instead of keeping him on a contract basis.

" With these observations, I once again appeal to the Hon. the Law Member to start immediately some more schemes in the Telugu country as was done by Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar for the Tamil country. I wish the Hon. the Law Member who comes from the Telugu country would do the same thing for the Telugu area by starting some more schemes even though there may be opposition to the same. With these words, I support the motion."

Rao Bahadur P. C. MUTHU CHETTIYAR spoke in Tamil and the following is an English rendering of the speech:—" Mr. President, Sir, several hon. Members have already spoken on this demand, but I would like to place before you certain aspects relating to electricity. We have read in books, records and other papers about the good done to this country by several European officers in the past. But in the present time, troublesome enactments are made which are not beneficial to the country. If they only do things which would be of benefit to the public at large, they would certainly erect statues for them so that they may be remembered for all time. Sir, I happen to know the Hon. the Law Member for a number of years past, but if he only does anything to deserve the thanks of posterity, I am sure his statue also will be erected in all parts of the Presidency. (*Diwan Bahadur A. Appadurai Pillai:* ' It requires courage.') He has got that courage, I know, and he has also gone to England and other places and so we cannot say he has no courage to launch on such big schemes for the benefit of the province in future and if only we give him suggestions I am confident he will take them up. What I would suggest is that the schemes under Agriculture, Industry and Elementary Education should all be put in a box and kept under the sea. They should only take it out when they think of carrying out my suggestions in regard to the supply of electricity throughout the province. What happens at present is, they collect the electric supply fees once a month; at least the municipal and other authorities collect their dues once in six months. Every one knows there are millions of poor people starving. On the other hand, we have about half a hundred fans running here. For instance, in my own town of Madura, we are afraid of putting on electric fittings to our houses, because the officers of the electric company, that at the end of the thirty days if the amount is not paid, at once disconnect the supply; they have no sympathy. Even doctors while performing operations when they come to know that the patient feels some pain, show some sympathy towards him. Even that amount of sympathy is not shown by the servants of the electric company, but what they want is money and this they get even by throwing nitric acid in the eyes of the consumers. The eyes of people have already been spoiled by using electric lights and not oil lights.

In this connexion, I wish to point out that in the villages in the south people suffer on account of a kind of grass 'Arahu' which grows in the fields and which is considered as a sort of 'chatru' by the cultivators. To remove this grass, because it is hard, it requires a pair of bullocks costing more than Rs. 150. Instead of supplying electricity to the towns, it would be better if the poor agriculturists in the villages are helped in their ploughing and other operations.

"There is another aspect of the question that I would like to mention here. We hear the names of Nelson, Napolean and others for their great prowess in war. We want that our Law Member's name also should be connected with the development of electricity in this province. Instead of sinking wells and pumping water for irrigation purposes, what is the use of wasting so much of money on electric lights and fans in towns? For ploughing, carrying manures to the fields and for other requirements of the agriculturist in the village, electric current would be immensely useful. I am prepared to give him a thousand and one suggestions if only he is prepared to carry them out with a view to provide electric facilities for the villagers. In conclusion I would repeat what I have already stated, namely, that the three items of expenditure should be curtailed and that amount should be utilized for helping the agriculturists by supplying them with electricity for their agricultural operations."

* The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu :—" Mr. Deputy President, Sir, I think, I will have to reply to the hon. Members by acknowledging the very excellent testimony they bore to the work of the department and for the general acceptance of the policy of the department in this matter. It is really gratifying indeed to find that the criticism that has been levelled to-day is not only appreciative but also helpful in many directions. The general question of policy has been raised and I think it is better if I should say in as few words as possible the general outlines of that policy. As hon. Members are aware, it is the policy of the Government to develop electric power in this province and try their best to see that every district, not only the Tamil districts as my hon. Friend, Mr. Krishnayya Choudari apprehended, but all the districts in the Presidency as far as the resources of the Government could permit, are supplied with electricity. Hon. Members are aware that we have got two great hydro-electric schemes, the Pykara and the Mettur schemes. The object of the Pykara scheme as at present conceived is to supply electricity to the whole of the West Coast, Nilgiris, and the Coimbatore districts and later on to Madura and a few other places; on the other hand, the Mettur system would be utilized for the purposes of South Arcot, North Arcot, Salem, Tanjore, Trichinopoly; and of course Chittoor also will be included. So far as the northern districts are concerned, hon. Members are by now aware that there are two other schemes, of which one scheme has actually been sanctioned and the other is under examination and it is hoped that the schemes would be introduced very soon. I am referring to the Vizagapatam scheme and the Bezwada scheme. So far as the Vizagapatam scheme is concerned, my hon. Friend, Mr. Ramaswami Ayyar, suggested that the Colab Hydro-Electric

scheme might be undertaken. But, Sir, we have received advice from our experts that apart from the political difficulties we may have, as a part of it does not belong to this province, there are also financial difficulties, the work would be a gigantic one, the cost will be almost prohibitive and even if all this is managed, the difficulty will be to find the necessary demand for the load that will be taken there. Therefore, it is suggested to us that instead of the Colab scheme, the Lammasingi scheme might be undertaken with the result that it will not only help the Vizagapatam scheme already started or about to be started but that the lines would be so linked as to be able to supply the combined electricity of Lammasingi to the northern districts, that is, the future Vizagapatam district and the East Godavari district.

30 "Possibly a portion might reach West Godavari. But there is the
m. Bezwada scheme also serving West Godavari leaving Guntur out. There is another scheme which my Friend, Mr. Krishnayya Choudari, will appreciate and that will be taken over to the Guntur district and that I assure him will be duly considered and sympathetically considered. Then I have the Ceded Districts. I have explained on a previous occasion the difficulties we have in the Ceded Districts. Industries are not available there. There are no mills and even for the agricultural load there is the difficulty of finding water. But that does not mean that the Government are unmindful of their duty towards those districts and attempt is now being made by obtaining a small sum of money —20,000 rupees—for the purpose of seeing whether water can be tapped in the districts. For this purpose a water diviner will be engaged and it will interest members of the Ceded Districts to know that this has been entrusted to the Electricity department. They will first of all see if water could be tapped and if water can be tapped, the assistance of electricity will be given so that water might be drawn out by this power. And when that is found out to be a successful experiment it will be extended throughout the districts. The mere fact that at present only Rs. 20,000 has been allotted need not in the least discourage my friends in the Ceded Districts. They can have this assurance from me that if this experiment of finding water proves successful, there is every possibility and every chance of getting more money for the work with the result, let us hope, that it might be found useful and beneficial to the Ceded Districts. That, Sir, is the general main outline of the intentions of the Government so far as the development of electric power is concerned.

"Now, Sir, the question has been raised—and it deserves to be answered that the Government alone should not only generate electricity but also be in charge of the distribution, practically thereby suggesting that the entire control, management, distribution and financial responsibility should be undertaken by the Government. Now, Sir, the present system, if it is understood well, is in a long way meeting that contention, provided the agencies are very few, except the great thing in Madras to which my Friend, Mr. Ramaswami Ayyar, referred and to which I shall reply presently. Generally speaking the control of major portions of these schemes is entirely in the hands of the Government. Now, Sir,

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so far as the distribution of power in the hydro-electric area is concerned, Government will retain in their own hands as far as possible the development of power as a State enterprise. That is, they will also consider applications from private interests for development on such schemes as Pykara and Mettur in special cases according to the circumstances of each case. So far as the distribution of power in the hydro-electric area is concerned my friend, Mr. Choudari, has raised the question that only municipalities and local boards should be given and no private party should be allowed to take out licences even for distribution. Here again the policy of Government is more or less the same. I say 'more or less' because there have been commitments and also there have been previous licences given with which to interfere at present would not be reasonable and if you do so, it would perhaps lead to litigation. I have promised in this House on a former occasion and I maintain it to-day that as far as possible private licensees will be discouraged. Wherever it is possible for the municipalities and local boards to arrange to take up this work of distribution it will be given unless special difficulties exist. Certainly Government will give it only to municipalities and in other cases they will themselves distribute. High-tension power-supply in the municipal areas and high-tension and low-tension supply in rural areas will be undertaken by Government direct. So that hon. Members will realize that the apprehension with reference to the Palar basin that the distribution of electricity to agriculturists might be handed over to private bodies is unnecessary and I assure the House that Government will retain in their own hands power to distribute subject to this condition, viz., subject to previous commitments. In all future cases, Government will try to undertake this supply themselves. (A voice: 'Why not pay compensation?') Commitments are commitments and the word of Government has always been known to be a bond. Very well, the difference will be very little because those agreements and commitments will be very few and need not worry hon. Members much. In areas which are not to be immediately served by any hydro-electric scheme but to which there is a prospect of hydro-electric supply being extended in the near future what Government do is this. They establish oil engine stations and work them themselves and if it is in the case of municipalities they will work for a certain period and hand them over until they are able to supply this hydro-electric power. There too it cannot be that the Government have handed over the control to local bodies. Now, Sir, as regards the generation and distribution of electric power in the non-hydro electric, i.e., thermal stations, both in Bezwada and Vizagapatam, Government do not propose to hand it over to anybody. Government will have full control over this generation and as far as possible distribution. Of course occasions might arise where it might be a great convenience both to the Government and the public if only distribution on a minor scale, where it may not be very convenient for Government to undertake in such cases, is entrusted preferably to municipalities and only in exceptional and rare cases to private individuals or private concerns.

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"Now, Sir, I shall refer to particular points raised by my hon. Friends here and I shall try to answer as far as possible in the order in which the remarks have been made. My hon. Friend, Mr. Ramaswami Ayyar, raised the question that in the policy of Government, Madras should be included in this hydro-electric scheme whether it is Mettur or Pykara and that the Madras company, I suppose by implication, should be asked to receive power instead of themselves generating it. But I do not know if my hon. Friend is aware that this Madras power is so great and the capacity of the engines in Madras is so great that all the power that we can command including Pykara and Mettur will be less than what the Madras power station can generate. For the information of the hon. Member I may mention that the kilowatt capacity in Madras would be 37,500 K.Ws. Pykara capacity is only 18,750 K.Ws. and Mettur capacity 14,500 K.Ws. In other words if you combine both this you will find that it will be about 33,000 K.Ws., that is, Pykara and Mettur combined whereas Madras has more than that capacity. So that we must find other sources of generation before we can think of interfering in any way with the supply or generation of electricity so far as the city of Madras is concerned. With the enormous population we have got, with the industries and with the load, I think, Sir, it is better at least for the present we leave alone Madras and attend to other matters on which so much stress has been laid by hon. Members, viz., industry and agriculture. If we have to take away all the electricity to Madras nothing will be left either for the Palar basin or for Coimbatore itself, which I am sure is not the desire of any hon. Member. One reason for which my hon. Friend raised this question was that the rates are high in Madras. But hon. Members must have realized by this time that the rate in Madras is now 4 annas per unit and that is exactly the rate which we have been able to supply nearer Pykara in Coimbatore. So that it cannot be said that any great change can be effected in the rates even assuming that it will be possible to supply power from the Pykara to the city of Madras. Then, Sir, my hon. Friend raised the question of Kolab. I have already stated the reasons. Apart from the fact that it goes to Orissa, I pointed out that the expenditure involved and the quantity of electricity that could be generated would be out of all proportion to the demand in that area. In fact it is a matter for serious consideration whether the whole load that might be generated at Bezwada and Lammasingi would at all be required. It is proposed to have Lammasingi at a later stage but during this interval it will be the endeavour of the Electric department to see that load is convassed and the assistance of the industrialists is secured so that all the power that could be generated might be utilized in that area. So that hon. Members will realize that the Kolab scheme is difficult, that Waltair and Vizagapatam combined with Lammasingi will serve all our needs and we shall not be in need of any more electricity. My friend next referred to the question of the Papanasam Scheme. I think I already stated in this House that though a hydro-electric scheme became impossible because of the heaviness of the cost, later on a combined scheme both for the generation of electricity and for irrigation has been thought of. I believe

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that at first the two Chief Engineers, the Irrigation Chief Engineer and the Electricity Chief Engineer, were not agreed. Though the one did not agree with the other at first, when this combined scheme has been suggested, it appears that both of them now see eye to eye and are willing and ready to agree to the combined scheme. The scheme is under consideration, and if it is found profitable in the sense that it could be economically worked, certainly, Sir, the Government will go ahead.

"So far as Negapatam is concerned, I do not quite see what my friend was suggesting. He was of opinion that the mills have not yet been started. Well, Sir, the delay may be due to some reason or other. But we have a contract with the mills, and I may say a business concern like the Negapatam Mills would not allow the opportunity to lapse.

"The next suggestion that has been made is that a tram line should be constructed along the district board road. I think my friend was referring to the Tanjore district in particular. But in Tanjore, I believe, they have got enough of rail roads and district board railway lines. I am not sure, in the first place, whether these tramways would be paying; in the second place, how far the competition between the rail-road and the tram line might affect each other is a matter for deeper consideration. (Mr. T. S. Ramaswami Ayyar: 'Where railway transport is not available.') I do not know if railway transport is not available in many districts. Take for instance, the rice-producing districts. (A voice: 'Cuddapah.') There will not be much to export from Cuddapah except perhaps onions and groundnuts. The difficulty in delta districts, so far as these railways and the proposed tram lines are concerned, will be this: to-day even the bus competition has come to be so very unwelcome, I should think, that it would not be very wise if we should start on a new experiment of trying—because electricity is available—to put in these tramways. However, I do not suppose that my hon. Friend really means that they should come into existence in the near future.

"Then, my hon. Friend referred to cottage industries. He wants button industry from horns and bones of animals; then he said there is the weaving industry which will solve unemployment. I think my hon. Friend, Mr. T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar, has sufficiently answered that point. Sir, you would not find an Indian born in this country who would not do his level best, at any rate to encourage, if he cannot do directly anything himself, and to help the cottage industries. The whole question is, how to do it. Whether it could be economically done, whether it would be useful to the extent to which we expect—these are matters which should be considered. Above all, what is needed in these matters is that to which reference has already been made, namely, co-operation amongst the workers themselves. We have seen the Co-operative department working; how many industries have they been able to start? I know of a bone factory somewhere in the South Arcot district, where they wanted to manufacture bone manure,

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and it has not succeeded. In fact, except developing the credit side, the co-operative societies and the co-operative movement have not endeavoured to a sufficient extent to see that adequate help is given to these cottage industries. It ought not to have been impossible. What is wanted is merely trust and mutual co-operation. If that is achieved, I am perfectly certain we could go a long way in introducing these cottage industries because they will be helpful in every way.

" The next point raised by my hon. Friend is one of rates. That, Sir, is a common subject for almost all the speakers that have spoken to-day. Instances have been cited of other provinces where generation of electricity was undertaken at an earlier stage. They have more experience than we have; they have also canvassed the load with the result that the demand in those other provinces is very large, and one elementary principle in a matter like this is that the rates would depend upon the demand. As a matter of fact, from our very tariffs, you will have noticed that we have been able to supply to to extend that to private individuals. The fact is, the heavier the load the lower the rate. It is that consideration that will have to be taken into account, and as time advances and there is increase in the demand, as industries develop and factories ask for more power, I am perfectly certain that these rates would come down. It is only a question of time, a question of demand. Now, Sir, so far as these rates are concerned, I may bring to the notice of the House that I have got a note prepared on the subject, which will interest the hon. Members. It says:

'The rate in force for supply of energy for agricultural purposes is one anna per unit. The Chief Engineer is considering the question of the possibility of reducing this rate; but it is out of the question to reduce it to 6 pies per unit for the reasons explained by Major Howard . . . If a reduction is arbitrarily imposed, the Chief Engineer is of the opinion that " it may mean that many trarily imposed, the Chief Engineer is of the opinion that "it may mean that many projected line extensions in future will be found unremunerative and the facilities of cheap electricity to the small farmer will be considerably restricted." The Chief Engineer has also observed that the rate at which applications are received for supply of energy for agricultural pumping in the Coimbatore district shows that the rate of one anna is not unattractive. This rate is also recommended by the Ganges Canal Grid Committee of the United Provinces Government as being reasonable for supply for pumping . . . A rate of less than one anna at present is uneconomical. Agricultural wells are widely scattered; the average horse-power of a pumping set is low, and it only operates for a few months in the year. Hence it is very much more costly to deliver a unit of electricity to an agricultural pumping set than to a textile mill; in fact in some cases it may be 40 to 50 times as much . . . At present, this department is receiving more applications for an electricity service to agricultural pumps than it can conveniently cope with and so it would appear that the one anna rate is not unattractive. Nearly 1,000 horse-power in small pumps have already been connected or signed up in the Coimbatore district without any intensive canvassing. There is no record of any complaints from consumers or a return to oil engines or bullocks. The concensus of opinion is that one anna is a reasonable rate'

In this connexion, I may bring to the notice of the House that the high-tension rates were reduced three times before the year 1933. The original rates were fixed in 1931. The rates are fixed separately for high-tension supply and low-tension supply. Since 1931, the high-tension tariff has been revised four times, twice in 1932, once in 1933 and again once more in 1935. The low-tension tariff also has been revised four times, thrice in 1932 and again in 1933. It will be remembered that my hon. Friend, Mr. Ramalingam Chettiyar, raised

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the question last year that after all working of these mills might be cheaper with oil engines and that considering what he called a high rate of charge for electricity it would not be an economic proposition for these mills to work with electricity. After that, the Chief Engineer met my hon. Friend, Mr. Ramalingam Chettiyar, and the latter was convinced that after all electricity would be cheaper than oil engines, with the result that to-day the only mill, that is, the mill in which my hon. Friend, Mr. Ramalingam Chettiyar, is interested, the last of the mills which stayed its hands from receiving electricity to the very last moment, has come round and is now working with electricity, finding that it will be cheaper to work with electricity than with oil engines. That, Mr. Deputy President, is my answer to the question of rates.

"There are some other minor points raised in the debate, but the time at my disposal is over, and I see you are looking at me to point out that my time is over. I will certainly consider the other points that were raised, and if I have not been able to reply to them now, it is only because I have no time to do so, but it does not in the least mean that every attention will not be paid to them."

Mr. T. S. Ramaswami Ayyar:—"The Hon. the Law Member tried to give a sympathetic reply on some points. But his reply has left me unconvinced to some extent. However, I feel that the last word has not been said on the subject, especially as the subject is one which deals with electricity, which is a progressive department. I therefore don't press my motion."

The cut motion [a] was by leave withdrawn.

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XVII—EDUCATION—TRANSFERRED.

* The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar:—"Mr. Deputy President, Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I move— 1 p.m.

> '*that Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs.* 1,85,92,900 *under Demand XVII—Education—Transferred.*' "

* Mr. C. Basu Dev:—"Mr. Deputy President, Sir, I move the cut motion standing in my name, that is—

> '*To reduce the allotment of Rs.* 30,000 *for Education—Transferred—University—Grants to Universities—Madras University by Rs.* 100 *(to discuss policy).*'

Sir, I rise under this motion to ask the Government for information with regard to their attitude towards secondary education. Before I proceed further, allow me to say that I am sorry for the criticism I had been directing against the Hon. Minister in the past—criticisms based more on my enthusiasm in the cause of education than on an accurate knowledge of facts and figures. For the last several years he was subjected to very severe criticism that elementary education was not being developed to the extent and in the way which some of us desired. If the

[a] To reduce the allotment of Rs. 88,300 for Electricity—Reserved—Hydro-Electric Survey—Pay of Officers by Rs. 100.

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Hon. Minister had sufficient and adequate funds at his disposal and if he was found not taking steps to advance elementary education, then this House would have reason to be dissatisfied with him. He is trying his best to cut the cloth at his disposal not into coat but into jackets to fit the younger children and later on when sufficient funds are available he will come forward and cut bigger and more satisfactory cloths for the grown up children. The other day the hon. the Lady Member on the opposition benches criticised the Hon. Minister for Education for not having paid sufficient attention to the question of elementary education. As one who recently had occasion to have closer and more detailed knowledge of the working of the department, as a member of the sub-committee on the Provincial Economic Council to consider the question of development of elementary education, I found that the fault lay not with the Minister or the gentlemen sitting on the Treasury Bench, but mostly with the hon. Members of this House who want to cut every possible source of revenue and at the same time clamour for more expenditure in the matter of education and other spending departments. Education wants large amounts of money, but unfortunately this House is not willing to vote the supplies to meet the expenditure. That the Government are not blind to the need for developing education is clear from the speech of the Hon. Finance Member when he said that in the statement to the Niemeyer Commission they mentioned that nearly eight crores of rupees were necessary for a satisfactory state of elementary education and I am sure when conditions improve and when this House realizes its duty we will have that type and extent of education which we all so very much desire. Allow me, Sir, now to make an appeal to the Hon. Minister that he should somehow find funds for secondary education. I have perforce to be irresponsible in my representation, as with my limited sources of information and limited ability to tackle such an important question as this, I can only make the request and leave the Hon. Minister to find ways and means by which he can get the money required. I request that he may find some more funds for secondary education. The present system which the Government have now adopted of making lump sum grants to local boards and municipalities for higher education is not at all, in my opinion satisfactory, and I don't think the Government themselves will contend that it is so. In advanced conntries secondary education is in the hands of private management, but in this country where private enterprise generally in all enlightened lines of activity is very slack, the Government should shoulder the duty of promoting secondary education. I understand, in Palani, one of the backward areas, the only High School there is proposed to be abolished in the near future. I had occasion to visit that school and see the children and also meet their parents. I am in a position to state that that school is an absolute necessity, if you are to give some chance for secondary education to the children of the various backward classes that reside in that locality. Another point with regard to secondary education is the necessity for an efficient staff. At the present moment the scales of salaries which the Government have now proposed for secondary school teachers are very unsatisfactory and compare very ill with the rates for

similar services under Government. I know the Hon. Minister will tell me that this question is one that comes within the purview of the Hon. Minister in charge of Local Self-Government. But as the Minister for Education, I submit with all respect, if he wants efficient and good education to be imparted in the schools, he must insist upon a well-trained, well-paid and efficient staff. In this respect I submit the Hon. Minister comes in for a share of responsibility.

"Sir, in this country we have one great defect, and that is, want of discipline in thought and action. If you want to have a well-disciplined society it can be achieved only through military training in the various schools. I do not think I need dilate further on this question. I will not detain the House longer but will content myself by saying that the time has come when Government should consider the question of introducing military training in schools, as such training will stand the country in good stead and help Government in times of need. Particularly now when we hear of new wars, the youth of this country will willingly contribute to the defence, the righteous defence of the legitimate rights of humanity. I am glad, Sir, that Government have realized their responsibility with regard to physical education and recently I understand they have issued orders to local bodies and municipalities directing the appointment of physical instructors, at least one in each district and in each municipality. That, Sir, is a good sign.

"With regard to University education, it is felt in all quarters that the quality of the graduates that are turned out by the various colleges is not satisfactory. I do not know, Sir, what are the causes standing in the way of high efficiency. One thing that I felt is that very early in life young men are allowed to enter universities, unlike in the West where the age for entering an university is strictly limited. But here in this Presidency, in the 16th year a boy can enter the university, and the instruction imparted to him is generally a waste, as he will not by then have attained the age when information can usefully be received. I think the age-limit must be raised, and the Intermediate course may usefully be added on to the High school curriculum, so that when a boy leaves the High school to join the University or play the part of a citizen, he may have attained the age of eighteen. I offer these suggestions for the consideration of the Government."

Mr. Daniel Thomas:—"Mr. Deputy President, Sir, in rising to second the motion so ably and so elaborately moved by my hon. Friend, Mr. Basu Dev, I wish at the outset to make a generous acknowledgment of the efforts that are being made by Government in the field of education, and especially of elementary education. I would submit, Sir, that in the matter of elementary education, during the last four years, special efforts have been made to avoid wastage and stagnation, to increase the efficiency of the outturn in our elementary schools and to adjust more profitably and more conveniently the location of schools to achieve greater strength and greater concentration in the teaching in elementary schools.

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" All the Members of this Hon. House are aware of what is known as the Champion Scheme. The Champion Scheme has been before the public for a number of years past, and there have been criticisms of varying character from several sections of the public. These criticisms have proceeded from different points of view, but whatever they may be, there can be no question of the fundamental principles of the scheme. Concentration of efforts in villages towards greater strength and fullness in the classes in elementary schools, centralization of certain schools, the increase of junior schools for the supply of strength to the central schools—these provisions are of fundamental importance and utility for the advance of elementary education in our Province. Though, Sir, the Champion Scheme has not been fully enforced or brought into actual working by the Government, still the scheme has been placed for the consideration of all authorities concerned in elementary education, though not by way of direct enforcement, by indirect persuasion and by actual perception of the conditions of the scheme by various local bodies and district educational councils. The scheme has been in actual practice. In my district of Tinnevelly, and in Guntur of which Mr. Krishnayya Choudari is the representative, informally and unofficially efforts have been made to concentrate schools, to weed out the unnecessary schools and promote greater efficiency. I would therefore acknowledge in this matter the efforts that are being made by Government financially and otherwise. Again, Sir, as my friend, Mr. Basu Dev, has already mentioned, a special sub-committee has been constituted for the purpose of examining the feasibility of compulsory elementary education over a wide area. The present reference to the committee is to the effect that in villages where the population is more than five thousand what measures can be devised for enforcing compulsory education. That, Sir, is being considered by the sub-committee and various proposals and schemes have been already considered by the committee, and ere long I trust this committee will be in a position to produce a full and valuable report which will be a long step towards further progress in the matter of elementary education.

" Then, Sir, the Government have also recently been pleased to lift the embargo in the matter of grants. Owing to financial stringency two years back, no block grants were made by Government for buildings for elementary schools. This was a great hardship especially to private agencies and private bodies who were in charge of elementary schools.

" All Members of this House would realize, without any elaborate effort on my part, that provision for good buildings for elementary schools is a matter of vital necessity and importance. A good building gives a sort of elevating spirit to the students themselves and provision of enough accommodation would certainly be of great advantage for the health of the school-going public. In these circumstances proper provision for elementary education is an essential requisite. I only trust that for many years to come large provision will be made in this matter. I may also mention here that the accommodation

provided in district board schools is of an extremely unsatisfactory character. In the Tinnevelly district for instance a large number of elementary schools are housed in rented buildings. Some of them are of a most unsatisfactory and undesirable character. I do not know if this subject comes within the sphere of the Hon. the Minister for Education and does not infringe on the sphere of the Hon. Minister for Local Self-Government. Anyway I may say, Sir, that a sort of ten-year plan for the provision of suitable buildings for the schools in municipalities may be called for and developed and necessary funds provided for the purpose by the Government year after year. While we are thankful for all that is being done by the Government, I would ask for more. The question of elementary education and universal compulsory education is of such a vast nature and is of so much importance to the country that it is the duty of the Government and of this House to provide for it in an increasing measure year by year.

"There are various other questions which directly or indirectly bear on this question of education. For instance there is the question of rural reconstruction. The hon. Members of this House will realize how intimately the question of education is connected with the question of rural uplift. I know that in certain areas of this province experiments are being made by which elementary teaching in the schools is sought to be intimately associated with other activities of rural uplift in the village. It is some sort of concentration in which the elementary school teaching is associated with other activities for the general sanitation and for the general progress of the village in the matter of rural uplift. I hope that will bring in happy results. It should be possible for the Government to start special centres in every one of the districts where, as a sort of experimental measure, schemes of rural education intimately associated with other rural uplift activities, may be taken on hand and carried out. Some such activity is already in existence and I request Government to take special interest in it and give special grants to municipalities engaged in this activity so that they may push on further with their schemes.

"I may also submit, Sir, that this question of education is connected with the question of unemployment. All of us, not only in this province but in the other provinces as well, are aware that this is a vast problem and that it has almost become a menace. Day after day we see numbers of our young men, intellectual, robust and capable of rendering the best of services to our country, going along the streets with their school final certificates tucked up in their armpits disappointment writ large on their faces. What is the salvation for them? Are we to allow the best of our young men to run to waste and, worse than waste because these unemployed young men will only turn to evil? I would submit, Sir, that in our educational budget, provision should be made so as to provide employment for the vast number of young men who are turned out of the schools. In this connexion, I would mention the special importance of vocational education. Time and again it has been pressed upon the attention of the Government and upon the attention of the authorities concerned that it is necessary to give a vocational bias to education. There are a

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number of schools giving vocational training also to their students. In some of them efforts are being made to introduce special and definite vocational courses. But under the present Grant-in-aid rules grants are given only to teachers who obtain training in the lower, higher elementary or secondary classes. A man may be a skilled master in weaving or in carpentry or some other subject. If one such is employed by a school at great cost and the necessary materials and machinery are also provided by the management, the Grant-in-aid rules do not enable the concerned authorities to make grants for the purpose to that institution. Is it not something anomalous? When we are anxious that our children should have some vocational training so that they may not swell further the ranks of the unemployed going about with their school final certificates but may find a job for which they are equipped by that training, is it not unfortunate that such vocational institutions should be treated as unfit to receive grants? If efforts are made by the management of schools in the matter of vocational education, should not encouragement in the shape of substantial grants be given to them to continue those activities? Here is a tangible instance in which the Government could have modified the rules and provided for special grants—even higher grants than those given to secondary trained teachers—for those masters who are specialists in vocational training. The Government may also be pleased to give a sort of special grant for equipment in the matter of starting these vocational classes in the higher elementary schools. Most of the boys of the rural classes may be given some sort of vocational training up to the eighth standard as also some knowledge of commercial correspondence. Vocational training may consist of carpentry, weaving, basket-making and so on. I submit that the students trained in this manner would be completely equipped for the struggle for existence and assured of a chance. I would therefore submit that in the matter of provision for grants for teachers and vocational equipment special aid may be given.

"I would also submit that in the matter of employment of teachers in elementary schools, the Government should not insist on trained teachers. I certainly acknowledge the usefulness of trained teachers. They give a sort of stability to the schools. But one of the evils we have to encounter in the managment of these schools is the fluctuation of the employment of teachers. Teachers are employed for nine months and then asked to clear out and there are also cases where teachers are shown as working merely for the purpose of obtaining grants. In this state of affairs it is no doubt necessary that there should be trained teachers. But, Sir, while the Government insist on the employment in an increasing degree of trained teachers, no adequate provision exists for the training. So much so, as soon as a training school is proposed to be opened, hundreds of people go there and beg to be admitted. A peculiar feature of the training business is this: while on the one hand the Government insist on trained teachers being employed in schools, there is the refusal in the training schools, on the other hand, to admit anybody who has not been a teacher in a school. This is rather anomalous. Now I am glad that the Government have made

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a slight variation that 50 per cent may be admitted without previous experience. But it seems that this exemption is to apply mainly to teachers belonging to the depressed classes, Mussalmans and women. What about the other classes of the population? Why should this disability be attached to them alone? How can we insist that all of them should have previous teaching experience and at the same time refuse them employment if they are not trained? In this matter also it is necessary that the Government should provide a large number of trained staff for our elementary schools."

* The DEPUTY PRESIDENT:—"Has the hon. Member got many more things to say?"

Mr. DANIEL THOMAS:—"I want some more time, Sir."

* The DEPUTY PRESIDENT:—"In that case the hon. Member may continue his speech after lunch."

The House then adjourned for lunch.

After lunch—2-30 p.m.

Mr. DANIEL THOMAS:—"Before we adjourned for lunch, I was saying that the grants that are made to local bodies and municipalities for the purpose of constructing their buildings were being cut down year after year. I ask that in this matter the Government might make generous grants to local bodies so that the schemes may be effectively carried out.

"Another matter to which I should like to refer is the question of assessed grants made to private aided schools. There is a good deal of dissatisfaction and complaint and agitation on the part of managers of schools, both teacher-managers and non-teacher managers. Last year in the matter of allocation of grants made to various aided schools in the Presidency it was felt that the reduction made in the grants ranged from 10 to 25 per cent on the grants allotted to the District Educational Councils. There were years, not so far back, when, as a matter of fact, in the grants assessed for these schools, there was an increase made by the Government. It is something quite the reverse of what had obtained some years ago. At the present day the Government are not in a position to give to various District Educational Councils even the amounts which are allocated to schools as what is known as 'assessed grant.' On the basis of the number of pupils attending the school and on the basis of qualifications and of the number of teachers employed in schools, these assessed grants are made and on the basis of these assessed grants the amounts are distributed by the District Educational Councils. If on the basis of these assessed grants the Government allocate their grants to the various District Educational Councils, say even if they give double the assessed grants to the District Educational Councils, the latter would not be in a position to make sufficient grants to these aided schools. And it is a mere farce to say that the District Educational Councils are in a position to give increased allotment to schools. If you are not able to make the ordinary normal

assessed grant to these schools which is more or less a moral obligation on the part of the Government to pay to these aided agencies, the provision made for giving grants to District Educational Councils in order to enable them to distribute such grants to aided agencies is absolutely useless. I would once again insist that it is an obligation on the part of the Government, apart from the question of their giving increased grants for efficiency or any other thing, to see that the District Educational Councils give these agencies an amount which is not less than the assessed grant. In this connexion I would submit that Government should appreciate the services rendered by private agencies in the cause of education. If these aided agencies run these institutions it is only as the agents of Government that they do it. If the Government themselves should run these institutions, it would cost them five or ten times as much as it now costs these private agencies. If as a matter of fact these agencies are running these institutions at one-fourth or one-fifth of the cost at which the Government would be able to run them, I need not emphasise that it is the obligation of the Government to provide them at least what is known as 'assessed grants.' You will find that year after year we have reduced the assessed grants paid to these schools. The position to-day, Sir, is that there is an increase in the number of schools, in the number of teachers and in the qualifications possessed by these teachers. But year after year we see a reduction in the assessed grants made to them. In order that the *status quo ante* may be maintained, there should be at least a normal increase in the grant, say 4 or 5 lakhs year after year. Unless year after year the Government adds this quota of 5 lakhs of rupees to the grants made to the District Educational Councils, the present level of assessed grants made to these schools cannot be maintained. I therefore submit that in this matter the Government should make an increased effort to see that more grants are made to these District Educational Councils year after year.

" Sir, in regard to actual assessment, the present system is open to considerable improvements. Under present conditions grants are assessed by counting the number of boys that are in attendance in elementary schools at the time of inspection. It has been found that this system is not a satisfactory system. I hope the Provincial Economic Council which is going into this matter will consider all the aspects of the problem and give us their opinion. I would also suggest that the reason for the present system being defective is the inadequacy of the inspecting staff. One of the fundamental evils with regard to the present system of elementary education is the existence of what is known as bogus school teachers and bogus attendance registers of boys that are kept in schools. For the purpose of getting grants, the number of teachers that are supposed to work is shown as very large while as a matter of fact there are not so many teachers. Also with regard to the number of boys that attend the schools, it is shown as a large number while as a matter of fact the number that attended is very small. So it is necessary to increase the inspecting staff. At the present time we are having one Deputy Inspector of

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Schools for something like 190 schools. Taking the number of schools which the Deputy Inspector of Schools has to visit and inspect, he can make only one inspection of a school in a year. And under the rules he has to give previous notice of inspection. We can very well understand what would be the position if the school master is unscrupulous and if the deputy inspector is also liberal minded and how, as I said, previously, the school master would try to show as many school teachers as possible and as many boys as he can for the purpose of getting increased grants. If there is surprise inspection at least once a year, and if there is an honest and efficient Deputy Inspector of Schools, the evil would be considerably lessened. Of course there is the question of cost. In this connexion I would submit that at present the Deputy Inspectors of Schools are highly paid. It is not at all necessary that for the inspection of these elementary schools we should have deputy inspectors with such high qualifications. In these schools there are classes only up to fourth or the fifth standard. So what are known as supervisors on a lower grade of pay are quite sufficient to keep an effective check on the proper running and maintenance of these elementary schools.

"Now, Sir, I have one point to submit to this hon. House in connexion with elementary schools for the depressed classes. I know that Government profess to take a special interest in the uplift of the depressed classes by increasing elementary education among these people. Many of these people still believe that if we want to call a school as the 'Depressed Class' school, they will have to secure the special sanction of the Government. As a matter of fact in the Administration Report we have the remarks of the Director of Public Instruction that schools for the depressed class people should not be increased. I understand the laudable object in the minds of the Government that by having separate schools for the depressed class people they should not segregate them into particular areas or particular institutions. With reference to institutions which are run by caste people, Government are insisting and should continue to insist on the admission of students belonging to the depressed classes also in such institutions. But there are certain areas which are almost entirely occupied by Adi-Dravidas and it is in these areas that we should have schools which would serve only the needs of the people belonging to the depressed classes. Of course, we can insist upon Adi-Dravida students joining the caste institutions and reading but we cannot compel students belonging to other communities to go and read in schools which are situated in depressed class quarters. But it is quite a different thing to have certain institutions which would serve only the purpose of Adi-Dravida students. I would therefore submit that unless special efforts are made to open Adi-Dravida schools specially for the depressed class people and unless special encouragement is given to them, it is very difficult to increase literacy among them by asking them to read in private institutions. As a matter of fact, I find in the report that the number of private institutions has considerably gone down.

"We also find that the number of Adi-Dravida students in private institutions has gone down considerably. That shows that owing to the economic depression prevailing in the Province which has particularly hit hard the Adi-Dravidas more than anybody else, more and more of these young children are taken away from the schools in order to earn something and help the family budget. The Adi-Dravida parents have found it hard to spare their children for the schools. I submit, Sir, that the Government should give special encouragement to these Adi-Dravida children so that they may prevent this decline in the number of them attending the schools. I believe some time ago there was a rule or proposal that a certain grant should be given to each institution which contained a certain number of Adi-Dravida pupils. If some such provision is made by which a special premium or bonus is paid to managers of institutions where there are a large number of Adi-Dravida pupils, it will give an incentive to managers to have a larger and larger number of Adi-Dravida pupils. Provision for slates, books and writing materials and in some cases for the midday meal should also be made. These are substantial factors which will give an encouragement to the Adi-Dravida pupils. In the case of these poor, depressed and backward classes, these special inducements and aids are necessary in order to make them attend schools in larger and larger numbers and thereby promote the spread of education among them and safeguard their interests.

"I request the Hon. the Minister for Education to be pleased to consider the various points which I have raised in the course of my speech to-day. I would urge that before the term of this Council is over, in the short time that is before us, the Hon. Minister fo Education who has already done a great deal for the progress o elementary education, for the introduction of the partial compulsor primary education and various other things, will see that the useful ness of these things is increased in the years to come by taking som substantial steps in the cause of elementary education.

"Just one other matter in which I am more or less personall interested before I close and that is with regard to the Madras Universit Library. Sir, various classes of persons are eligible to take bool out of the library. Even recently I saw an order which was publishe in the newspapers to the effect that certain headmasters and certa teachers in the mufassal who are certified by their headmasters a allowed to take books from the University Library. I do not co under any of these classes; I am neither a headmaster nor a teach who can be recognized by a headmaster. Though I am a Member the Legislative Council, the President of a District Educational Coun and the Chairman of a Municipal Council and so on and so forth, s I do not belong to the class of persons who can borrow books from University Library. I hope that the Hon. Minister for Educat will be pleased to extend the privilege to the Members of the Le lative Council and allow them to take out books from the Univers Library."

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Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan:—" Mr. President, Sir, we are at the fag end of this Council and the Hon. Minister is not in a position either to tell us or tell the public at large whether it will be possible for him during the short period that there is before him to do anything either to satisfy the Members of this Council or the people of this Province in the matter of the progress of education in this Province. There are two or three things which it is necessary for us to remember when we consider the question of the education of our people. The first thing is that in spite of the fact that our people have been agitating for more than a century for making the people literate instead of allowing them to be illiterate, the Government either have not succeeded in spite of their honest endeavours or have not made honest endeavours in that direction. If they have made honest endeavours in that direction and failed it is due to the fact that they have conducted this important function of theirs on wrong lines. They have not only based the very ideal of education on wrong foundations but they have also been spending their money in a very wrong manner. They have spent a very large sum of money without making that money go a long way and making a larger number of our people really literate. They have been spending money on higher education. I do not grudge that. We must spend some money on higher education, but the primary duty of any Government is to impart elementary education to a very large number of people. In that respect the Government of this Province has failed egregiously. Sir, the education that is imparted to our people is not the right type of education. As the Hon. Minister himself said the other day, it is neither useful nor practical. It is high time that the Government of this Province without depending entirely for ideas and suggestions from the Government of India took the necessary initiative themselves and tried to reform this system of education so that they might make it more practical and useful. We see that a very large number of our young men, and to a certain extent our young women, who have passed through the portals of the University are to-day going about the streets of Madras and other cities and towns in the Province without any means of livelihood. They are all unemployed and I do not know whether they will have any prospect of employment before they are over-aged. The education that they have received has not either qualified them or given them the initiative that is necessary for any young man or woman to make his or her own livelihood for himself or herself. They have to depend either on the services or other employers for their means of livelihood. The moment they find that these doors are closed, they have no other alternative but to remain unemployed and depend upon the resources of their father or father-in-law. (Interruption from Mr. Krishnayya Choudari.) May I know, Mr. President, what my hon. Friend there is saying? "

* The Hon. the President:—" The hon. Member from Guntur suggests that the Corporation should employ some of these men and thus solve the unemployment problem."

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan :—" I request my friend to realize the seriousness of the problem. It is not easy for us sitting here in this place to realize the gravity of the situation in the country. One has only to become somebody to know exactly how and what a large number of young men are unemployed and to what wretched condition they have been reduced. I have experience of young men, highly educated young men, going about the streets of Madras without food even once a day walking through the streets of Madras and not being able even to talk on account of the exhaustion due to starvation. Such is the position, Sir, to which educated young men have been reduced in the country. These things should open our eyes and show the necessity for reorientation of our education so as to make it useful to those who have been educated, so that they could without depending upon the employers take the initiative themselves and earn their livelihood. It is high time that Government took the necessary steps to revise the system of education. I have always felt, Sir, and my conviction is becoming stronger that the large number of young men who study in the various colleges in the city and the rest of the Presidency are not all of them educated in the right sense of the word. Only a small percentage of them pass their examinations and the rest which form a large percentage are rejected as unpassed. The degree which they hold seems to give them some qualification, but whether those who possess the degree or the very large number of those who are rejected by the University are really educated in the right sense or not is a question to which sufficient attention has not been paid. A very large percentage of the students go through the courses as a matter of course and they do not really get themselves educated. This is due to the fact that a system of education by examinations is in vogue here. Therefore it appears to me that it is necessary, although it might appear to some of the hon. Members to be a novel suggestion, that if education should be general, if education should be universal and if education should be useful to the students of the college classes, we must give up all University examinations. It is only then that students will study for the sake of education and not merely for the sake of passing examinations. In the reform that is necessary in the matter of education I believe that the first thing that the Government will have to do is to see that elementary education is made a compact whole in itself. Any pupil who goes through this course up to the end of his fourteenth or fifteenth year should be considered educated in the right sense of the term. To-day a student who passes through the elementary school classes and even passes through his higher elementary course is certainly not at all educated. He is only fit to join the other high school classes. The elementary school course should be made a course which is complete in itself and anybody who passes through that course should have received sufficient knowledge to be regarded as an educated person.

m. " Even the high school course should be of such a nature as to be complete in itself; it should not be a course only to enable young men, after they come out of it, to qualify themselves either for Government service or for admission to the College classes. It seems to be

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that this part of the educational career of a young man is intended for his being enabled to join the college and receive higher education. That does not seem to be the right arrangement. The high school course must be made complete by itself.

"With regard to the question of Muslim education, I wish to say this. The Muslim community was really gratified at the orders that the Hon. Minister and the Government passed with regard to the various requirements of that community. But unfortunately these orders have not been given effect to in the right spirit, especially the order with regard to the question of imparting religious instruction to Muslim boys in both the Government and non-Government institutions. I am afraid I have to express my utter disappointment with regard to the attitude of local boards towards the education of minorities, especially of Muslims. Either on account of the fact that they have not got sufficient money or on account of their carelessness towards education, they are not affording facilities for the education of minority communities. They have been neglecting it deplorably. Sometimes I feel that it has become necessary to take the education of minorities like the Muslims and depressed classes entirely from the hands of local bodies, so that sufficient facilities can be given to them by the Government itself. Practically in every local body, we do not have sufficient number of Muslims to convince the other Members of that local body with regard to the requirements of Muslims in the matter of education. On account of this fact, Members of other communities find it easy to brush aside the claims of these minority communities and their special requirements. The Muslim community feel that religious education should be imparted to their children. We will not be sorry if Hindus, Christians and others ask for the imparting of religious education to their children both in Government schools and in schools managed by local bodies. It is necessary that children belonging to all denominations should receive religious education. It is wrong to think that if religious education is given to Muslim, Hindu and Christian boys, communal troubles will increase, that the bigotry of these communities will increase, and they will become such religious bigots that they will cut each other's throats. I am afraid that is a very wrong idea. On the other hand children whose education is based on the sure foundation of religion, will surely be better and will understand the feelings of other communities better and there will be amity and concord prevailing among the people of this Province. Therefore it seems to be necessary that religious instruction should be imparted to children belonging to all denominations.

"The Hon. Minister in charge of Education, in answer to questions put to him on several occasions and in answer to the general budget debate on education year after year, has been telling us that the Champion scheme is not given effect to anywhere in the Province. To my great disappointment I found that that is not a fact. In one district at least—in the Kurnool district—the Champion scheme has been working in full swing. In the Kurnool district the Champion

scheme has been given effect to the detriment of not only Muslim education but education of depressed classes also. It is a very impracticable and useless scheme. Its impracticability and uselessness has been found out by all the districts which gave effect to the scheme. The headmaster who belongs to a different community is not able to supervise the actual working of the schools either of Muslims or of the depressed classes or Christians. Education of not only Muslims, depressed classes and Christians but of all communities suffers in those districts where the Champion scheme has been given effect to. In theory it appears to be a very good scheme of concentration and amalgamation. But when once it is put into effect, its impracticability and the harm it is likely to cause to education are brought to the surface. I hope the Hon. the Minister will tell us whether it is not a fact that he has given his approval to a local body or a Government department to give effect to the Champion scheme. If it has been given effect to in any district, I hope he will issue orders to discontinue it and to restore the old order of things."

* Mr. M. S. SRESHTA :—" Mr. President, Sir, the great problem which the Hon. Minister has to face at the present moment is the question of aided schools. This matter has already been referred to by my hon. Friend, Mr. Daniel Thomas. Therefore I need not say much on this question. But the great point is that education should not be regarded as a State monopoly. It may be that certain departments of Government activity may be regarded as State monopolies such as electrical undertakings, postal services, etc. So far as education is concerned, it is not necessary to regard education as State monopoly. It is better left to voluntary agency, and His Excellency the Governor in a speech the other day, said that he would welcome more voluntary work, in matters involving social service. Education is a form of social service and it is best left in the hands of Missions and associations which take up educational service as their chief aim. It has been said by the Director in his report that the best manage[d] schools are the Mission schools; next come the district board school[s] and last of all other aided schools. So far as the Mission schools ar[e] concerned, they are very efficiently managed. A large number of aide[d] Hindu schools also are very efficiently managed. What I would sa[y] is that all aided schools should be given full support so that the wor[k] of education may not be regarded as a State duty only, so that Mission and other registered associations may be entrusted with this importan[t] work of education; this will greatly diminish the cost of educatio[n]. It is well known that the cost of education in aided schools is ve[ry] low, as has been ascertained by the Education department. The co[st] of educating a boy in a Government school is Rs. 30–2–7; the cost p[er] pupil in a local board school is Rs. 10–14–0; in an aided school it [is] only Rs. 6–7–7. The cost of education of a pupil in an aided scho[ol] is one-fifth of that in a Government school and two-thirds of that in [a] local board school. If education is imparted in an aided school ve[ry] efficiently, I do not see any justification for having board schoo[ls]. You know the case in South Kanara; a large number of district boa[rd]

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schools had to be closed because there were not sufficient number of pupils in those schools. I myself inspected a district board school recently and there were only about fifteen boys in that school with only two teachers getting something like Rs. 900 and Rs. 1,000 per annum. Would it not be more economical, when there is a Mission school or an aided school which is efficiently managed, not to have a board school in the vicinity? This will diminish the burden on the district board. The cost of education in a Government school or a district board school is greater than that in an aided school. A few schools like the labour schools are managed by the Government, and as we know they are very costly. I inspected two labour schools and found only about nine or ten pupils in them; those schools were managed at very great cost. I would make a suggestion in regard to labour schools; we might follow very well the practice in the Cochin State. There a grant is given in respect of each depressed class boy; each depressed class boy is given about one anna or half an anna for his midday meal and he is supplied with notebooks, slates and books that are necessary. That system might be adopted in our schools. Or we may be more generous and give Rs. 1 per head for each Adi-Dravida boy in a board school. If that is done more Adi-Dravida boys will be attracted to the board schools and the heavy cost of the labour schools would be probably reduced.

"There is a big cry from all aided schools throughout the Province, that the teachers are treated as worse than menials. They get very small salaries; whatever grant is given, is not fully given to the teachers but is shared by the manager as well. There are certain expenses incidental to the management of a school which ought to be paid to the management which runs the schools. I would therefore suggest that in giving grants to aided schools, in addition to teaching grants, there should be some sort of grant for management and rent. If that is done, this abuse will not continue.

"Then as regards the Champion scheme, I agree with my hon. 3.
Friend, Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan, that it is not a very perfect p.
scheme; there are many drawbacks in it, and perhaps if those drawbacks are removed, it will be a very good scheme. And if the Hon. the Minister is not pursuing that scheme, it is because the difficulties have been great. On the other hand, the Hon. the Minister for Education deserves credit for the great progress which has been made in education in this Province. It must be remembered that the question bristles with many difficulties which are not to be found in England and America from which the Champion scheme was borrowed. With the several communities in this country and with people so very poor, it is not possible to introduce such a costly scheme here. Although it is intended by that scheme to reduce expenditure, it is practically a very costly scheme. We ought to consider local conditions; I do not see any reason why we should have costly buildings. A small well-ventilated building will be quite suitable for the needs of this country; I think we need not spend much money on equipment and buildings. It is frequently asked, Sir, how are we to give more grants

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to aided schools, seeing that our funds are very limited? I would say that one method would be to reduce as much as possible the number of board schools and Government schools and at the same time to see that the efficiency of the schools which are given grants is increased. In the district board schools, I believe, there is no proper machinery to see that education is properly imparted; it is a very difficult thing for a district board to pay the salary of a District Board Educational Officer, and the number of inspectors who can be employed by a district board must be necessarily limited. It is better that these inspectors are Government Inspectors and that so far as possible, the management of these schools is taken away from the district boards.

"I now come to the question of orphanages. They deserve some attention. Till this year the grants have been given more or less economically, and as I said, the department has not erred on the side of extravagance. So far as Indian orphanages are concerned, the rate is extremely low. I do not see why there should be so much difference made between Indian orphanages and European orphanages. Perhaps it is thought that the cost of living of the Indian boy is much less and therefore the grant must be lower. But we ought to increase the standard of living; we ought not to reduce the rate so much as to give no impetus whatever to an increase in the standard of living. I believe the rate is usually Re. 1-8-0 or Rs. 2 per head with a maximum of Rs. 3. It is hardly sufficient; but economical as the department ha been, perhaps it cannot be blamed because the grant to orphanage has increased from about Rs. 10 lakhs to about Rs. 15 lakhs this year This time they have gone from economy—and if my Hon. Friend, th Minister, will excuse me—to parsimony. A good many orphanage have been refused grants. I have one in view, the orphanage i Mangalore which is conducted by the St. Joseph's Asylum. It use to get something like Rs. 3,000; this year it gets nothing. The reasc probably is the new interpretation given to rules Nos. 62 and 64 of tl Grant-in-Aid Code. It has been said that no institution deserv a grant as an orphanage unless 50 per cent of the inmates are destitu children receiving education. The words in rules 62 and 64, so far I remember, are that 50 per cent at least must be destitutes. Nothi is said there about education. The primary aim of these orphanag is to maintain children who are destitute. Of course they must given education, if it is possible, but in some cases it is not possi to give education. I do not believe the object of the Government to take away the grant given to an orphanage just because there a large number of small children who are not given education. T age-limit is 18 for girls, but after the age of 13 or 14 these girls not require elementary education; they are given vocational educat like needle work, etc. There is no reason whatever, when vocatic training is given, why the grant should be refused. In this partic case, on account of the interpretation given, somewhat strictly, the gr has been refused. For instance it has been said, that the institu must remove from out of the number of destitutes, all children

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are receiving vocational education. I think, Sir, that is a wrong view, and I trust the Hon. the Minister for Education will see that the grant is given to this orphanage."

* Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder :—" Sir, I was simply wondering when my hon. Friend, Mr. Daniel Thomas, was speaking, at his statement that education has made rapid strides under the regime of the present Minister. But as far as I can see, I am not able to understand what great progressive strides it has made. The other day when Ministers' salaries were being discussed, the Hon. Minister for Education claimed to his credit two Bills which have been passed. They are really of doubtful utility. I do not think, Sir, that the results have been tested sufficiently for us to know what benefit has been brought by them. That is yet to be seen. As a member of the Select Committee on one of the Bills, i.e., the Bill relating partial compulsion I was not in favour of the measure because I thought it would not do much good, and that on the other hand, it might even injure the present position, by resulting in keeping out children from schools. Such measures cannot be worthy of any Ministry which functions for more than five years.

" Leaving that question I shall now pass on to elementary education. It must be the achievement of any Government to claim credit that elementary education is free and absolutely free in all their area; but I find that in this Province while it is so in some districts, fees are being levied and collected in other districts. Sir, I have been agitating for a very long time to have free elementary education introduced in my district, but I have not been wholly successful so far with regard to school fee for girls in elementary schools. I have managed to remove it in my area. Again, I moved a resolution in the district board to make the elementary education free in all its area in both boys' and girls' schools and it is being examined now. In almost all the districts, separate tax, by name education-tax is being levied, and it is being paid by the poor ryot population. When they are contributing for elementary education in this way, may I ask the Government whether it is proper to make them pay another fee in the schools? The State must undertake to impart education free of cost. I would urge on the Hon. the Minister to lay down a strict policy that elementary education should not be charged, and must be absolutely free.

" As regards the spread of education, I may say that instead of spending a good lot of money on schools maintained by local bodies, much improvement can be made if the Government make it a point to have aided institutions in greater numbers. In actual practice, we find that the expenditure incurred on an aided school is comparatively much less than what we spend on a local board or Government school. If we take up the expansion of education through the aided agencies, I think, Sir, with a limited amount, we can expand education to a greater extent than what we can do through these local bodies. We shall take up the case of a local board school and an aided school, with a single teacher of lower elementary grade. The local body will have

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to bear the entire cost of paying the salary of the teacher and other costs which may come to Rs. 25 to Rs. 30, a month, whereas in the case of an aided school, the cost comes to about Rs. 5 to Rs. 9 a month, i.e., about Rs. 60 and Rs. 108 a year. In that way, we will be able to show much better progress in education for the amount we now spend if we widely adopt aided schools. But one thing is that we must have effective check and supervision.

"In this connexion, I want to bring to your notice, Sir, that the allotment which the Government are making for grants to aided schools is not at all satisfactory or encouraging. These aided institutions are provided with paltry amounts, and even there they are not able to get the full allotment of assessed grant and very often, these grants are subjected to a cut of as much as 25 per cent. This is a very unsatisfactory state of affairs and I request the Hon. the Minister to see that these schools are given sufficient grants, so that they may run efficiently and do some useful work. Again, Sir, by giving teachers training to all those who desire to have it, the Government may improve the position of elementary education in the country. The present policy of Government seems to be that in giving training to pupils, they bear in mind the question whether all of them can be provided with employment in any already recognized school. My suggestion is that if you provide training and afterwards insist that the trained young men should attach themselves to some school or other, you will induce them to open aided schools in rural centres, and thereby there will be a great expansion of education. In this way, aided institutions will spring up in larger numbers and at a low cost, the Government will be able to spread elementary education considerably. I would therefore suggest that in the matter of giving training, as many men and women as are available should be given the teachers' training and made to open schools in villages and continue to run them efficiently with the Government aid.

"In this connexion I may mention here that I have been corresponding with the Government on the question of opening a secondary-grade training section in the Government training school, Salem, which has of late been shifted to Mettur. I was urging that the opening of secondary-grade training section at Salem was necessary, but it was then held that for want of accommodation and other facilities at Salem, the new section would not be opened. But now the said training school has been shifted to Mettur and there is ample space for other conveniences there, and even the other day when opening the school at Mettur formally the Director of Public Instruction was pleased to say some favourable remarks in the matter of raising it to the secondary-grade level. So I would request the Government to examine the question of opening a secondary-grade training section there. At present the pupils who are desirous of undertaking secondary-grade training have to go for such study either to Coimbatore or Vellore far away from their homes; and if one nearer home in their midst is opened, it will really be helpful. At the same time, I don't think the Government will

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be put to much extra expenditure on this account; I think, Sir, that with a little mutual adjustment, it will be quite possible to have this section, at a considerably small cost to the advantage of all.

" Besides, I wish to point out that the Government are not giving 3-:
any stipends at all for the pupil teachers of the secondary-grade and so P.M.
much so, there is no expenditure at all in this direction. So, for all these reasons I desire to state that the opening of secondary-grade training section at Mettur is economical and helpful to all. With regard to the payment of stipends to woman teachers, I should urge that the rate must be somewhat encouraging to induce women to take to study and adopt this profession especially because we find that in many girls' schools, there is a great dearth of trained women teachers and we have naturally been obliged to employ male teachers in their stead. So, they must be given encouragement so that the women of our country might take to education and come to the teaching line. Thus we can pave the way for expansion of women's education—I hope the authorities will feel the necessity that women should be encouraged by offering more stipends and as a method for improving women education act in that direction.

" I shall now pass on to collegiate education and the expenditure incurred by Government for such education. Here also, I may point out that the Government instead of spending a great deal themselves on their own institutions, might as well give sufficient aid to aided institutions and thus promote higher education in the Province at a much cheaper cost. In this connexion I would invite the attention of the Hon. Minister for Education in regard to the aid they are providing to the Pachaiyappa's College. Sir, I believe, they are giving a paltry amount of about ten thousand rupees or so, which is not in any way adequate to their large demand. I am told, Sir, that during recent years it has become the hard lot of this institution to cut down their expenditure miserably on account of the small income that they get as a result of the limited admission to the college. But, even then, they are not able to adjust their position and they are indeed struggling hard to maintain themselves and so have applied to Government for help. I do not know whether the orders of the Government on their request have been issued. I would like to hear from the Hon. Minister about the matter, and I would urge on him to give a sympathetic consideration to their request. Sir, this is an institution which was founded by the philanthropy of the late revered Pachaiyappa and I think the Government will be only doing bare justice and their bounden duty if they extend their beneficial help and make the institution run successfully. With regard to the needs of this institution for a residential college, it is also a matter which requires the immediate attention of the Government. Now, Sir, with regard to the Christian College, the Government have, by a stroke of the pen, allotted some 20 lakhs of rupees. I do not of course grudge that and it is a thing in which they have spent in the right direction. In the same way, and with the same generous spirit, the Government should extend their help to this old institution also which has got a tradition of its own and has got an importance in this city as a long-standing one.

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"As regards admission of students to the professional colleges such as the Teachers' College and the Engineering College, I woul like to make a few observations. It is indeed a great problem to ge admission either in the Teachers' College or in the Engineerin College. If one has to get admission in any of these colleges, not t speak of the fate of unemployment after coming out of the college, i is a great task no doubt. When we are interested in improving educa tion and industries in the country, we should not stand in the way o producing a number of trained teachers and skilled Engineers I would therefore request the Hon. Minister to see that he provide ample scope for training more and more teachers in the Teachers College and none is turned out without admission. In the Engineerin College also, the same difficulty exists. I would therefore reques the Hon. Minister to see that enough accommodation is provided fo a sufficient number of pupils who want to take up to this kind o education too.

"Again, Sir, with regard to the Law College, I have been puttin interpellations to show that the Government are getting a good lot o income through this institution. From the Administration Report o last year, we find that the Government have made a profit of abou Rs. 28,000 from this college. In running this institution, Governmen should not treat it on a commercial basis. I do not think the Hon Minister will be agreeable to my view from the answer he gave th other day to a question of mine in this regard. Anyhow, I woul like to put this before him, namely, that education should not be mad a commercial concern and that he should see that the tuition fees ar reduced.

"I would like also to point out that in regard to the allotment o grants for libraries, it would be better if those grants are given to th co-operative institutions instead of to the local boards for distribution My opinion is—and it has also been my experience—that if th amounts are distributed among the co-operative institutions, they would serve a more useful purpose than if they are distributed by local boards, because these co-operative institutions have a rura atmosphere and they have also got a number of such institutions with many a rural folk attached to each of them. If the library system is extended in the rural areas, it will certainly go a long way in solving the problem of illiteracy in the Province.

"Lastly, Sir, I would touch upon the question of Scout movement and urge on the Government to provide more funds for this purpose. I am glad, Sir, that we have got in our Education Minister, the Chief Provincial Commissioner and he himself will be interested in promoting this aspect of education. But from the allotment that is made this year, I find that there is only a paltry sum of Rs. 7,000 provided for this purpose. This is a movement which improves the cultural habit, discipline and other qualities in our youngsters and so it must be widely developed in all the schools. I would therefore urge on the Minister to see that he gives sufficient allotment in order to develop

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scouting and cubbing in this Province to a very great extent; and I would particularly request him to see that each and every school is provided with a scout troup or a cub pack at least.

"Sir, I have got many more points to touch upon, but I do not want to stand in the way as there are many hon. Members desirous of taking part in this discussion. So, in conclusion, I besides requesting the Hon. Minister once more to give sympathetic consideration to all the points I have raised, wish to state that as I have brought out specific points in each and every cut motion of mine, it would be helpful to the Hon. Minister to see how far he could improve education in the Province by examining these points and adopting the suggestions I have made and I hope he will do as desired of him. With these few words, I extend my support to the cut motion before us."

* Mr. K. P. Raman Menon:—"Sir, I rise to intervene in this debate for the purpose of bringing to the notice of the Education Minister and this House the serious want that we feel in the West Coast. There are only two first-grade colleges in the West Coast, one in Mangalore and the other in Palghat. The one at Palghat, I must perforce say, has been starved to a very great extent, so much so that if this process is carried on for a number of years, the college is sure to die of anæmia. The college classes were opened in 1925 for IV-A History, V Languages, III Philosophy, I-B Mathematics and Physics and I-B Chemistry. But in 1932, some of these branches were abolished and now there are only one or two groups I-B for Mathematics and branch IV History, which are being taught in the college. Now, for students who belong to the West Coast and also for students perhaps within a radius of 50 miles to the east of Palghat, this is the only college which is situated within convenient distance. When such is the case, why should Government abolish these branches without permanently reducing the staff of the college. It will be seen from the strength of the students that while in the year 1933–34 there were 189 students in the Intermediate classes, there are now only 62 students in the B.A., and for what reason? Because there are no branches for their study in the college except I-B Mathematics and IV-A History, students who want to take up the other branches, have got to go elsewhere. The result is, students do go away and get admission either in Madras or in some other college—and most of the students come over to Madras and not to other places. Now, Sir, for a poor boy to come to Madras, it is extremely hard. It may be quite possible for persons with some affluence to send their boys to Madras. Then again, there is the difficulty of getting admission into the colleges in Madras as you are well aware. In the Presidency College there is a very strict system in regard to admission and the same case holds good in the other colleges as well, but perhaps not so strict as in the Presidency College. So, Sir, if there are 189 students in the Intermediate classes and if as a matter of fact, there are also other branches taught in the college, it stands to reason that the strength of the B.A. classes also would be commensurate with the Intermediate classes. If you compare the strength of the other first-grade colleges this point will be clear. We

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find that in the Anantapur College in 1933–34, there were about 266 students in all, out of which 163 in the Intermediate classes and 103 in the B.A. What is the reason for this. There, they have got branches I-B, II-A, III, IV-B and V and other branches. Again, Sir, in the Kumbakonam College in the Intermediate classes they have 151 students and 84 in the B.A. There also we have got branches I-B, II-B, III and IV-B Economics and V-B Sanskrit and Tamil and because of the existence of these branches, there are a large number of students in the above colleges; and I assert that it is because of the absence of the higher branches, the students of the Palghat College migrate to other colleges. I want the Education Minister to look into this matter and try if possible to eradicate this evil.

" Sir, there is another subject I want to deal with and that is the pay of the elementary-grade teachers of aided schools. Petitions, letters and other representations have been received by me in the course of the last few days and also just before I came away from Malabar to the effect that the teachers in aided elementary schools are practically starving and that their pay will not compare with the pay of an ordinary peon or an ordinary constable, not to speak of the other low-paid persons in Government employ. At least the least amount of justice that they expect of the Government is that their pay should be on the same level as that of teachers in corresponding grades in the schools run by district boards in the various districts. If that is assured to them, then there will be no difficulty whatsoever. That is a matter which I would commend for the consideration of the Education Minister.

" Then, Sir, may I be permitted to deal with one or two broade aspects of the question. I am not one of those who would prefer t have higher education starved for the purpose of encouraging elemen tary education. It is an old old question. But I would ask the Hor Minister to see that higher education also should receive at his hand equal consideration as elementary education does. One has to chang his view-point altogether when one considers the question of high education. So long as the people of this country regard higher educ tion as a mere stepping-stone to Government employment, education wi not pay and will not succeed and there is no use blaming the Gover ment for unemployment and there is no use blaming the Governme for not doing this or that for solving the unemployment proble People must realize that education is an end in itself, educati develops character as a preliminary to making them honest citize All these qualities cannot be acquired except by means of higl education. I am one of those who believe in higher education and tl it should be extended as far as possible. While I say that, I do r for a moment think that elementary education should be neglect because elementary education is the basement upon which all otl things could be built up. It is only if all the people in this coun are literate and are able to distinguish between good and bad, it only then that this country can be called civilized. For this purp

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elementary education should be encouraged and certainly elementary education is a matter which must receive very great consideration at the hands of the Education Minister.

" Then again, it is stated that vocational education should be imparted to students. Here again, I may be permitted to say that the prejudices of the people of the country are responsible for all the difficulties. What is the vocational education that you are going to impart?

" Mr. Daniel Thomas suggested one or two instances as weaving, 3-
baskets-making and carpentry. Do the restrictions and prejudices P
of the people allow for such vocational education? Will a Brahman gentleman who sends his boy to school allow his boy to take up carpentry? Will the boy after he leaves the school continue to be a carpenter using the chisel? As far as I have known the country more than any one here, people have yet to outlive their prejudices. Then alone these schemes as to vocational education will succeed. It is easy to court popularity and play to the gallery. When you come to grips with the subject it is a most typical problem. People must get out of their grooves. They are now thinking and moving in their own grooves. In fact the dignity of labour has yet to be realized. Agriculture in this country is a thing which every man takes to. Nobody has any prejudice about agriculture. You may take it up for vocational education. When my friend Mr. Krishnayya Choudari suggests carpentry and basket-making I have to smile at it and say that such things will not succeed in this country."

Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari:—" I want to bring a few *grievances in regard to the department* to the notice of the Hon. Minister for favourable consideration. Recently the Government thought fit to issue some orders to the effect that the pay of the school teachers is not adequate and by compulsion they want to bring about a uniform rate throughout the Presidency. That is the case with the local board services. I want to ask the Minister why similar revision of the grant system should not be made. If it is at the cost of the local boards, the Government are prepared to alter the rate because they are not spending anything out of the provincial funds. With regard to the elementary school teachers the Hon. Minister has not increased the scale of grant. Even some assistance under the grant-in-aid system is not given. I request the Minister to consider if it is not a breach of promise on the part of the Government not to give them the full amount of the assessed grant which they are entitled to get. When there was a cut in the salaries of the proivincial departmental officers, the Finance Member said that he had promised to remove it as early as possible. What about the ten rupees and fifteen rupees teachers? Is it not a breach of promise I want to know? Is there a difference between a promise made to the high-paid man and the low-paid man, I want to ask the Minister and the other Cabinet Members. I cannot make the Minister alone responsible. I wish he carries this to the other Members of the Cabinet. Sir, the scale this

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year would have been cut down to the extent of 17 per cent. Fortunately the Minister has taken early steps to fight with the Finance Department and succeeded to the extent of three lakhs. Thereby we are enabled to have the same cut as last year, viz., 10·8 per cent. Even to retain the same cut is not desirable. I suggest that the Hon. Minister might put up a fight with the Finance Department and get much more. The other day when we sanctioned the three lakhs in the Finance Committee, we thought that the amount is inadequate and the Finance Department must provide, if it is in a position to provide, the rest of the amount also. I do not know what steps the Minister has taken. The Finance Committee is only an advisory body. I hope the Minister will take the hint and fight for the extra moneys from the Government. This year, Sir, my district which is entitled to get Rs. 4,55,000 was only given Rs. 3,91,000. This is much more than the 10·8 per cent cut. I request the Hon. Minister to look into the matter and see that something is done towards them. Another thing, Sir, is when once we give this assessed grant, there is no healthy spirit in the District Educational Council. If we continue to keep the bad schools on the list, we will have more advantage because the departmental officers are going to base their assessed grants on them. The moment any district educational council takes some trouble to close such bad schools, the assessed grant will go down. On that account we save some money. So I suggest that Government might look into the matter and that steps may be taken to see that in additior to assessed grants some other scheme is also brought into force to giv 'adequate grants to various schools. If the Government do not do auy thing in that direction, the district educational council will not clos the bad schools and proceed in the right direction. That is why w are closing several schools. But if the Government won't alter it, w will be compelled to adopt some trick to get over the trouble. Sir, th grant-in-aid system has not provided for the B.A., L.Ts. It has provide only for S.S.L.Cs. In view of the fact that there are so mar unemployed graduates available, the higher elementary schools ca safely have these graduates. I suggest that the grant-in-aid syste may be so altered as to provide facilities for the employment B.A., L.Ts. also in the schools. There are several schools which a aided. For the teachers of the aided schools there are no such pro sions. Where the Director of Public Instruction approves the appoi ment of music teachers, drawing teachers and drill teachers, they m be given some grant. At present we are not entitled to give any gra unless they are trained. I know, Sir, there are several schools in district with 300 and 400 boys in some higher elementary schools a if we have not got separate drill instructor or separate draw teacher, we will not be able to do our things properly. I request Hon. Minister to provide some scale of grant for them. Another thi Mr. President, is there are untrained teachers, those who are contin for the last so many years. Those who are untrained are allowe draw only five rupees. After 1932, Government have prohibited appointment of such teachers. They have taken some good step. T

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not exempt all such teachers and make them qualified to get some higher grant? Sir, if they permit them to attend the lower training schools or grant some exemption which the Director or Government can order, they may be given at least the lower grant which is only 10·8 per cent. What sort of education can they give by taking five rupees? Knowingly why should we pay them that? We can as well abandon that grant. I suggest that some steps should be taken in that direction as five rupees is too small a sum. My friend, Mr. Daniel Thomas, has referred to the training schools, etc., and I do not want to take any more time of the council. The clerks of the district educational council are given a separate scale of pay from other departments. A clerk is paid 35—1½—50 and 30—1—40? Why should these clerks be given a separate scale of pay? They may be given a uniform pay. Without regard for work, some district educational councils are given two clerks. Councils dealing with 4,000 schools and councils dealing with 1,700 schools are given the same number of clerks. Instead of that, clerks may be given according to the number of schools they have to deal with. For some councils two are not necessary and for some two are inadequate.

"When we are spending about 4 to 5 lakhs of rupees per annum, I ask why the Government should not place at our disposal the services of a full-time Deputy Inspector to work as the Secretary to the District Educational Council. A Deputy Inspector's salary will be only something like Rs. 2,000 per annum. So, I suggest we must have a responsible Deputy Inspector as Secretary. If it is not possible to do so at present, I suggest that the services of the present Secretaries who are the headquarters Deputy Inspectors may be placed entirely under the control of the Presidents of the District Educational Councils. In my district, when I entrusted the whole work to my Secretary, the Deputy Director writes to me a letter that only from the 1st to the 5th of the month I can make use of him and that I cannot make use of him afterwards. The only Government Order, which permits the headquarters Deputy Inspector to be utilized as the part-time Secretary of the District Educational Council was passed by the Government as long ago as 1920. So, I suggest that, considering the present situation, the Government may issue a fresh Government Order in place of that old Government Order. When the Government expect various kinds of things to be done by the District Educational Councils, it is the duty of the Government to come forward and give us more help to administer things properly, and to allow us to utilize the services of Government officers. I hope this suggestion will be considered.

"I suggest that the confidential reports of our Secretaries may also be sent through us. Because, when the District Board Engineer's confidential report is sent through the President of the District Board, there is no reason why the President of the District Educational Council should not forward his Secretary's confidential report. That will at least make the Deputy Inspector have some fear and regard for us; otherwise they may not care for the President at all.

"Now, the Deputy Inspectors are having 180 schools each under their supervision. Recently I brought it to the notice of the Director of Public Instruction that the Deputy Inspector in our district should

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be given two more assistants to relieve him of some of his inspection duties, so that his services may be available to us, and we had some relief. All the same, I suggest that instead of having B.A., L.TS. to supervise these elementary schools, we can have a larger number of junior deputy Inspectors, who are S.S.L.C. men with secondary training and who may be placed in charge of about 60 schools. Thus we will have more supervision and we can pay more surprise visits, and our moneys will be well spent. So, I suggest that some steps should be taken in that direction, and it would not be a financial burden. On the other hand, it will give some more relief to the Deputy Inspector.

"Then, if the depressed class boys are admitted in Board schools, the teachers are given some additional benefit. But a similar provision is not made in the case of aided schools. So, I suggest that a similar provision may be made especially for schools in Hindu localities where Adi-Dravida boys are admitted through the efforts of the aided school managers.

"Then, I want to bring to the notice of the Government the need for confirming the post of Deputy Director of Elementary Education. Though we have been talking much about elementary education, that post is still a temporary one. That shows what interest Government is taking in elementary education. So, I say that that post itself must be confirmed immediately, so that at least we will have one officer who will look into everything connected with elementary education more carefully. In connection with the inspection of the various District Educational Councils' offices, I brought the matter to the notice of the Government, and they have issued some orders. But no such inspections are taking place frequently. I do not know why. Anyhow, I hope the Government will take some steps in that direction.

"There are no training schools for Hindu women. That is why no trained Hindu women are forthcoming. The women teachers we have are almost all of them, not less than 99 per cent, Christian teachers So I suggest that if anybody comes forward to train Hindu women from aided schools in our district, they should be given encouragement I hope the Government will view this question more favourably.

"If the Government do feel that they have not adequate funds t spare for elementary education, I suggest that some colleges may b closed. I am not in favour of Mr. Raman Menon's suggestion, and think that unless we have more elementary schools spread througho the country, there is no use of having too many colleges. We can ha a certain number of colleges, but we need not have so many colleges we have now. (Interruption). Whatever it be, whether it is t Mangalore College or the Rajahmundry College, it is immaterial, b we can close some of these colleges. At the same time, I am r anxious that they should be closed altogether, provided they can entrusted to private bodies to run them. For example, the other d we got an appeal from Lady Venkatasubba Rao for opening an ad tional women's college in Madras. If the Government feel that th have not got enough funds, why should they not entrust the Qu [illegible] College to their charge? Though we might lose what we h

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spent on equipment, etc., at least we will be in a position to save the recurring charges. As a matter of fact, even the Presidency College or any other college may be so handed over, if a private *bona fide* committee comes forward with adequate funds to run the institution efficiently. I hope the Government will take up for consideration this question of entrusting some of the colleges to private management.

"In the B.Ed. training schools, there are not the required number of seats to be distributed among the various communities. I suggest that 50 per cent. of the seats may be reserved for students who are anxious to get themselves trained on payment of some fees, say Rs. 5 or Rs. 10. Such students who are prepared to pay may be admitted irrespective of other considerations, and that will fetch some money to the Government. So, I suggest that some steps may be taken in that direction.

"Then, Sir, the district boards are given some block grants. These block grants are alterable every five years. But no such alteration has been made for many years past. In view of the heavy expenditure, they are incurring at present, a revision is necessary. I think, if a revision is made, probably several district boards will be entitled to get more grants from the Government than what they get now.

"Several elementary school teachers are now filing appeals to the Government, and the time of the Educational department is wasted over them. So, I suggest that in every district a committee may be constituted to hear appeals from various teachers of district board and municipal schools. The committee may consist of the President of the District Educational Council, the District Educational Officer, and one member elected by the District Educational Council. If such a committee is appointed for each district and such things are entralized in the districts, I think it will give a lot of relief to the iovernment in the matter of looking into these small things.

"Another thing I want to refer to is this. There is a Government)rder permitting Muhammadans to have religious education in every ublic school. But, Sir, I want to know why the Government should avour a particular community alone in this respect. If they want to ontinue such a thing, let them permit every other community to have he same privilege. I do not envy the Muhammadan community, but only want that my Hindu community also should be given the same rivilege. We are paying a very large amount of tax. The Muhammadans are only about 10 or 12 per cent of the population in the Presidency. That being so, why should the majority community be lenied that privilege? I request the Government to pass early order granting this privilege, as otherwise it will be a slur on the other ommunities. Because the Muhammadans are fighting every time and sking for everything they want, the Hon. Minister is yielding to them; ut as the other communities are not fighting, they do not get any rivilege. Being a Hindu Minister, he must not neglect the Hindu ommunity; though we may fail to agitate for various reasons, still e must bestow adequate consideration and sympathy towards the Hindu community in this respect. With these observations, I once nore request the Hon. Minister to consider all my points."

Mr. P. K. Ramachandra Padayachi:—" வன்னியகுல க்ஷத்திரியர்கள் வாசிப்பில் ரொம்பவும் பிற்போக்கானவர்கள். ஆகையால் அவர்கட்கு யெல்லா ஸ்கூல்களிலும், ஸ்காலர்ஷிப் கொடுக்கவேண்டும்.

" ஜில்லா போர்டு ஸ்கூல் லோயர் கிரேட் உபாத்திமார்கள், சுமார் 15, 16 வருஷ காலமாய் அநுபவம் பெற்று 25 ரூபாய் முதல் 40 ரூபாய் வரையில் சம்பளம் பெற்றவர்கள். அவர்களை என் ஹயர் கிரேடாக பாவித்து அந்தச் சம்பளம் கொடுக்கக்கூடாது. அவர்களது குடும்பம் எப்படி ஜீவிப்பது.

" டிரைனிங்கு வாசிக்கும் மாணவர்கட்கு, செலக்ஷன் செய்பவர்கள் அதிக நாள் சர்வீஸ் கேட்கிறார்கள். டிஸ்டிரிக்ட் போர்டு பிரஸிடெண்டு மூன்று மாதத்திற்கு மேல் லீவு கொடுத்தால் சர் சார்ஜ் ஆகுமென்கிறார். இவர்கள் வழி யென்ன."

" கனம் கல்வி மந்திரியவர்கள் இவைகளை கவனிக்குமாறு கேட்டுக் கொள் கிறேன்."

15 a. * Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt:—" Mr. President, Sir, in supporting the cut motion, I should in the first place submit that the Hon. the Minister should not be under the impression that the abolition of board and private schools in preference to mission schools suggested by my hon. Friend from my district, Mr. Sreshta, is the view of the other communities or the general view prevailing in the district. It might be the view of a particular community like the Roman Catholic community which he represents. The reasons are quite obvious. We in our district have begun to feel whether the time has not come for controlling the spread of Roman Catholic missionary institutions in our district. These institutions are spreading in alarming degrees and they are ousting the other private as well as the other board schools, and it is only by force of necessity communities have to send their children for their training to these schools. We do not object to senc our children there if it is merely for education. But the subtl influence of the missionaries and the atmospheres of the place on th minds of the young pupils is really a matter which has been givin cause for concern in the minds of parents. So my submission is tha other communities forming the majority in the district have a rigl to insist on the Government for protecting their interests and seein that board schools, labour schools and other public schools are n starved and closed in preference to the missionary schools. We ha no objection for any number of Christian schools for their own studen as they want their own students to be taught by them and not ou side agencies—even Government. But these schools are maintain by missions whose main purpose and professed purpose is proselytisati and we do not want that the public of the district should be placed the mercy of these missionary institutions for the education of t children. Just as Christian missionaries do not want their stude to attend other schools, is there anything wrong in the Hindus w form the large majority asking for their not being thrown at the me of the Catholic missionary institutions by the abolition of the bo schools to give room to them. The Champion scheme is one of finest schemes given by that eminent educationist. It prevents wast and is beneficial to the largest number of students possible. But I not know whether it is the pressure from these Roman Catholics, e cially of my district, which has prevented the Minister from intr cing the Champion scheme, into my district.

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"Coming to aided elementary schools, I think it is high time that the Government should tackle this question, because it looks as if the money spent on them is to a large measure a wastage. I do admit there are very good institutions, here and there. In the first place the teacher-managers consider that the institutions are their own private concerns, somewhat in the manner of trading concerns; secondly, the conditions of service in these schools are very precarious. As regards the first point, these teacher-managers care only to get money from the Government by way of grants, but do not care to pay to the teachers under them in the same proportion. As regards the second point, in very many cases these schools are very poor in strength and very few go to these schools. The tenure of service of teachers is very precarious. They are at the mercy of these managers. So, it will be seen one evil is connected with the other. The managers fill the acquittance rolls and swindle the public exchequer by pocketing a large sum which is really intended for the benefit of the students and teachers. It is high time that Government should intervene and see that a certain amount of stability is introduced in the service of teachers and the money they grant is properly spent.

"Then Government pay large sums of money to all schools by way of building grants and furniture. But the property continues to be the property of the manager. No doubt he gives a guarantee to run the school. He constructs the school with Government funds, but the property continues as his private property. A creditor of the teacher-manager can proceed against it. So, this is also a matter which has to be looked into, and sufficient safeguards should be imposed to see that the school continues even though the teacher-manager dies or otherwise cannot run it.

"Then, Sir, I am in full sympathy with what my friend from the West Coast, Mr. K. P. Raman Menon, said with reference to the Victoria College, Palghat. This is the only Government first-grade college for the whole West Coast. My submission is that it should be maintained as a well-equipped college with facilities for teaching all the subjects which are taught elsewhere. Otherwise they will have to go elsewhere, far away either to Madras or to Kumbakonam. There is no first-grade college in Mangalore teaching all the subjects. So, it is the duty of the Government to provide the West Coast which is a wide area of about 300 miles in extent from one end to the other, with one fully equipped first-grade Government College. Then I understand that the Principal of the Victoria College, Palghat, has submitted proposals to Government to have these branches taught in the college without much expense. I don't know why Government have been silent on the matter. I remember I asked a question about it. It would be well if the Government takes this House into confidence and carries out the proposals which the Principal of this college has made. I would submit that not having these groups in the college is the cause for serious inconvenience to the people of the West Coast, as they have to go elsewhere for their studies at a considerable cost and the poor people have to discontinue their studies.

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" Then, Sir, I should like to put in a word regarding the admissions to the several Arts and other technical colleges. The admissions are very much restricted. It looks as if it is much easier to get admission in a foreign college in England or elsewhere than in a college in our own Presidency. To get admission in the Presidency or Engineering College or Teachers' College or Medical College seems to be an impossibility, whereas in America or Germany or England a Madrasi can get admission without much difficulty. Therefore, I submit that either the seats should be increased in these colleges or better facilities provided for admitting pupils. I should like to say one word regarding the Government College at Mangalore. I have myself been a student of this college and I know it for thirty years. The principal of the college has been all along taking up English. The idea is that English is a subject which every student has to study and if the principal takes up that subject he will naturally be in touch with all the students and this will be mutually beneficial, to the principal as well as the students. I have nothing to say against the present principal whom the Government have appointed. I hear he is a Chemistry Graduate. I have not seen him nor do I know who he is. This practice of the principal taking up the English class has been going on for the last thirty years and this practice should not have been given up. In this connexion I remember having addressed the Hon. Minister as well as the Director of Public Instruction, but I am sorry to say that my letters did not receive even the common courtesy of an acknowledgment at the hands of either.

" Lastly, I should like to refer to the order of rustication passed on several students in Malabar by the District Educational Officer, for having taken part or been supposed to have taken part in the civil disobedience movement. I remember having asked certain question on this, in this Council. No doubt, from the Government standpoin it may be quite right. But the question is whether it is advisable tha the Government should have raked up the thing after such a lapse o time. The civil disobedience movement ended in 1933 and these order seem to have started at the end of 1935. If there was anything serio at that time these questions would have been raised by the then Di trict Educational Officer. But why after such a lapse of time the ne District Educational Officer should rake up this matter? After al this movement was a mass movement and many people took part in i The question is whether it is advisable to rake up these old things a create feelings of bitterness."

4-30 p.m. * The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—" The hon. Member need not wait f points. There are others waiting with points." (Laughter.)

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—" Sir, I am just seeing if I ha any more points on which to speak. As it is time, however, I wo conclude with a request to the Hon. Minister to consider the vari matters I have mentioned and find a remedy."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—" Sir, I do not want to be lo because I know there is very little time and I am under a promise t

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I shall be as brief as possible. I consider there is no useful purpose going to be served by now reviewing the whole policy of education in this Presidency. I would only say and everyone will admit that the educational policy requires a re-orientation through and through and I do not think that at the fag-end of this Council the Ministry will be able to do what it has not been able to do during the last five years. Probably this will be a problem that will have to be left to the incoming autonomous Government. I therefore restrict myself to one or two particular grievances which I intend to bring to the notice of the Hon. Minister for redress.

" The first thing is that in the Queen Mary's College there is provision for the Mathematics branch in the Intermediate class. There has been agitation on the part of the public that there should be Mathematics branch opened for the B.A. class as well. By opening this branch for the B.A. class the Government will not be committed to any large expenditure. Therefore it seems that only the question of accommodation has been bothering the Government. I believe this can be arranged by correspondence with the principal of the college. It will not require any great accommodation for providing this extra class. All that is required is to ask the University for affiliation. It is but reasonable that, when there is provision for Mathematics in the Intermediate class, those students who get through the Intermediate should also be enabled to continue in the same college for Mathematics B.A. as well. Provision has been made under Part II Schemes that there should be some subsidiary staff for Chemistry in that college. If provision could be found for an additional staff in Chemistry in the B.A. class, I do not see why there should not be found a small provision, if that is required, for Mathematics branch also being opened.

" The second point I would urge is this: there is great need for legislation to protect and safeguard the rights and interests of the teachers in the private managed institutions. The tenure of office of these teachers has become very precarious and that precariousness is increasing as time goes on. There must be some security as to their tenure of office, and with regard to the provident fund, pension on retirement and scales of pay, there must be something which the poor teachers could depend upon as stable and secure. The Government should think of some legislation which will rope in all these private-managed institutions so as to ensure some security of service for the large number of teachers that are working in them. This is very largely the duty of the Government because the Government have left education to private effort. In order to regulate, control and supervise that private effort, which is being put forth in the matter of education, it is but necessary, and very desirable, that the Government should take up some legislation to ensure security of tenure for these teachers.

" The other point to which I would like to refer briefly is this: the Government have brought up a scheme for providing playgrounds on the marina. That is a laudable scheme. But I would urge upon the Government that they should go forward with that scheme, whatever

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may be the opposition, either from the Corporation or from the public of Madras. I am one of those who believe that, on the one hand, the marina will be beautified by this step, and on the other, there will be increased and enormous facility given to the university students and college students for play. It is therefore essential that the whole of the foreshore should be beautified with lawns and playgrounds.

"Then there is another point I wish to refer to. I am in haste. The Hon. Minister will follow me and forgive me if I am not elaborate. There is great need for increasing the provision for public libraries. The Government once gave Rs. 40,000; then they reduced it to Rs. 20,000 and to-day it has dwindled to Rs. 10,000. I wish the Hon. Minister puts up a fight with the Hon. the Finance Member and in the next budget for which I think he will be responsible, ask for at least Rs. 30,000 for the public libraries. The public library movement is one of those movements which help the Government not only in the spread of education but in the retention of literacy which the boys and girls attain in the elementary schools. If literacy is to be retained and if our educated youths are not to lapse into illiteracy, it is very necessary that the library movement should be supported to the extent to which it is possible. For, that Rs. 10,000 is hardly sufficient fo the innumerable libraries in the Presidency.

"I would then urge upon the Government the great need fc increasing the accommodation in the Teachers' College. We find difficult to accommodate the 180 admissions now made to the colleg Application has been made, the principal has no objection, and I ha myself written to the Government that they should pass orders co sidering the question favourably and make 180 into 200 so that the may be increased facilities for the admission of larger number students in the Teachers' College. I wish, Sir, that the matter whi is still pending is expedited even before the end of this month.

"There is then one small matter to which I desire to draw t attention of the Hon. Minister. The opening on an Economics cou for the B.A. class in the Muhammadan College is a great necessi I am assured by the staff, the principal and the authorities concer that there is no extra commitment from the point of view of fina if an Economics branch is to be opened there. I request the H Minister to consider this.

"The next thing I want to refer to relates to the loans asked for the Corporation of Madras for the construction of school buildi The Government have not been able to give much. There is very g need for the Corporation itself owning the buildings for the sch managed by it and two lakhs and three lakhs are asked for from t to time by the Corporation. The Government have not granted t loans. I would urge upon the Hon. Minister to take some interes the elementary schools run by the Corporation and enable them to money to build those schools which will be a great asset to the Cor tion.

"One thing more and I am done. In the matter of the app ment of the Superintendent of the Government Muhammadan H

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Training School, I am thankful and the community is thankful to the Hon. Minister for having made a very serious and honest attempt in the direction of recruiting a Muslim as Superintendent. But I am sorry to see that the attempt has not fructified. I would urge upon him not to give up that attempt. He will consider that there is every reason for appointing a Muslim as Superintendent because it will add to the education of the Muslim community. The Muslim community will take largely to education if there is a Superintendent from among the Muslim community to manage that institution. I have always said that efficiency should be the sole criterion even when communal preference and communal representation has to be made. Subject to that, I would ask that Muslim lady should be appointed. If you cannot get a lady with training and experience in teaching, one can be appointed as a probationer for one or two years as the rules require and confirmed afterwards if she completes the probation satisfactorily. I would request the Hon. Minister to revive the question and get a lady appointed to that place although the post has now been temporarily filled up as I understand.

"I would not take up any more time of the House except to say this, that on the policy of religious instruction the Government have done the right thing though they did so very late. The Muslim community has always insisted upon this thing that religious instruction shall form an integral part of the education of the entire community. No other community has so far insisted upon that aspect of education. The Muslim community has, from time immemorial, from the time that this Government passed from their hands into the hands of the British Government, been saying that but for religious instruction they will not care for secular education. So, in order to encourage the Muslim community to take to education more and more and to avoid this community being a drag on the rest of the communities, it is necessary that religious instruction should form an integral part of the educational curriculum in schools intended for them. The Government have done the right thing in acceding to their request. No other community feels in the same way, but if any community feels that way, we have no objection to any provision being made for that purpose and religious instruction being made an integral part of the curriculum of education for them too. I think the Government ought not to be blamed in this respect at all; on the other hand we ought to be thankful to them that they did not pay attention to the so-called wrong interpretation of the so-called policy of religious neutrality and accepted the Hartog Committee's recommendation. We are thankful to the Hon. Minister for having understood the right spirit of and what is really meant by the policy of religious neutrality."

Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar:—"Sir, I do not agree that we should give up the attempt to re-orientate the educational policy of this Government. I think it would do well to concentrate its energies upon the very pressing question of preventing wastage in the educational policy now pursued by it. Sir, while one is tempted to ask the question as to what exactly the Minister has achieved during the last

five years it has been in office to spread literacy in this Presidency, I would urge, Sir, that at least from now to the end of the term of the present Ministry it should concentrate its efforts upon consolidating the position attained if any in the spread of elementary education. It is certainly pleasant to notice the change that has come about, namely, the greater emphasis that is laid upon the spread of elementary education than on collegiate education and also the emphasis that is now being laid upon giving technical colour to the secondary education that is now imparted. Still, Sir, as I said, the efforts of the Government in pursuing to its logical conclusion the recommendations of the Champion Committee have been made in a half-hearted manner. There is, I am afraid, a lack of courage in dealing with important questions that have been tackled in that report. It is said that in certain localities at any rate, a certain amount of compulsion with regard to the spread of elementary education is being observed. For instance, option is given to certain municipalities and to certain local bodies to declare compulsion in certain areas, but, a close scrutiny of how that compulsion is being worked will disclose that, as a matter of fact, probably as many pupils of the school-going age are out of the schools as are inside the schools. Take the City of Madras. Compulsion so far as elementary education is concerned, is said to prevail here. But what is the sort of compulsion that we have here? Scores and scores of children more than are within the schools are outside the schools. It may be said that the Corporation of Madras is a somewhat autonomous body and is in charge of elementary education here. But what about other municipalities in the mufassal? Take for instance the municipality with which I am connected, the Vellore Municipality.

4-45 p.m. "Sir, the increase in the population has been very rapid in our country, but the increase in the number of schools or the number of classes provided in the schools has not been commensurate with the increase in the population. That apart, it is now incumbent upon local bodies who have adopted compulsion in their respective areas to provide more accommodation and to provide more schools. Still it does not exculpate the Government from their responsibility of seeing that these local bodies admit in their schools as much of the school-going population as they can. Recently some months ago, the Vellore Municipality agreed, in order to provide more and better schools to impose upon itself a higher taxation and expected that Government would on their part that some additional grant is made in proportion to the tax raised for the purpose of making education compulsory in the real sense of that term. What has happened? Even though the municipality took upon itself the onerous odium in raising taxation, so far as elementary education is concerned, the Government did not do their part of the duty by contributing their portion of the grant. I am only mentioning this state of affairs for the purpose of bringing home to the Hon. the Minister the responsibility which attaches to Government and to his portfolio in taking proper steps to battle against ignorance and especially now when the Governors of this Province particularly His Excellency the present Governor and his predece

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in office have said that one of their important functions is to wage their battle against illiteracy and to spread the gospel of literacy as far as it is possible for them.

"There is only one other matter which I would mention so far as elementary education is concerned. May I ask why the Hon. Minister should not give liberty to the various local bodies, if they are so inclined, to prescribe a certain course of civics and for the inculcation of patriotism in the minds of young pupils in schools by making it compulsory for various schools to see that certain national songs are recited viz., the Bharati songs? I understand there is a proscription with regard to the singing of Bharati songs in the elementary schools under the control of local bodies. I would urge upon the Hon. Minister to remove that ban and if certain local bodies are so inclined to prescribe for instance the very famous songs of Bharati like 'Vazga, Vazgha, Bharatha Nadu Vazhgaway,' I think there is no harm in allowing such local bodies to introduce into their schools the singing of these national songs. I do not think the Hon. Minister can seriously object to it, Tamil scholar as he is. If this is done, it would inculcate a sense of pride for our country and a sense of patriotism in the minds of the young pupils. I do not think that Government should have the slightest objection to such songs being recited in schools.

"There is one other matter pertaining to Vellore which I want to bring to the notice of the Hon. Minister. There is a school called Government Training School for girls there. That is the only training high school for girls and I understand that the applicants are very eager to enter into this school but the number of admissions is so limited that twice or thrice the number of girl pupils as are now in the school have to be turned out for want of space or restriction of the number to be admitted. Another matter that I wish to refer to in this connexion is this: I do not know what explanation the department has got to give for this state of affairs—that during the last three or four years there have been frequent changes in the place of the headmistress of the school. During the last three or four years there have been more than five or six changes. I do not think that speaks for the proper control or for the proper development of relationship not only amongst the teachers but even amongst the pupils of the school. That is a very important matter which is agitating the minds of the people of Vellore. There have been two changes recently, one in the middle of the year and one still more recently, that is, a month and a half ago and it is very desirable not to change the head of an institution so constantly in the course or middle of a school year.

"There is one other matter to which I would invite the attention of the Hon. Minister and that is with regard to the post of District Educational Officer. I do not understand how the persons who are qualified in a particular language are posted to districts in which a different language is spoken. For instance the Tamil officers are posted to Telugu districts and Telugu officers are posted to Tamil districts. In the best interests of the spread of education, as far as possible, Tamil officers should be posted to Tamil districts and Telugu officers to Telugu districts.

and so on. There have been glaring instances where Tamil knowing gentlemen have been posted to Telugu districts. I know of one or two instances where the men posted to particular districts are not even acquainted with the language prevailing in those districts and much less proficient in them. I hope that, as far as possible, the Hon. Minister will see that the officers posted to particular districts are suitable to those districts.

"There is one other thing to which I would refer. I would join in the appeal that has been made by my hon. Friend, Mr. Basheer Ahmed, viz., that the Hon. Minister will strive his level best to increase the number of seats in the various technical schools and colleges of this Presidency, the Medical School, the Medical College, the Engineering College and the Teachers' College. I would urge upon the attention of the Hon. Minister that undue insistence upon accommodation and first-class equipment need not deter him from making every attempt to provide more seats for the technical education of boys of this Presidency."

* Mr. G. R. PREMAYYA:—"Sir, the time allowed is very limited and within the short time at my disposal I should like to finish. I would inform the Hon. Minister in charge that under the Labour department some are employed in Labour schools and some of these schools have been handed over to district boards and they are now under their management. If there should be any transfers made it is very difficult to have these inter-transfers made. I want to give a concrete instance. The husband of a certain lady is working in Labour school under the district board at Ongole and his wife is working in the Education department in Repalle. If she wants to go to Ongole she has to spend about Rs. 5 and if the husband wants to go to his wife he also has to spend about Rs. 5. I think it is very unkind to separate them. If there is some arrangement with regard to inter-departmental transfers between these two departments, I think this difficulty will not arise.

"Sir, I also wish to say something about the schools intended for the depressed class children. Sir, the depressed class children have been taken away from their field work and have been admitted in schools intended for them. If they are taken away from those fields and put in general educational schools they feel quite foreign to the subject they are taught in such schools. If they are taught in schools where agricultural subjects are taught, I think they will feel quite at home. So also if the criminal tribes are also taught some hand-crafts, they also will feel quite at home. If all these children are put in one and the same school where general education is given, after they reach 4th, 5th or 6th standard they do not know what to do. They forget all their handicrafts. And those boys who had an aptitude for agriculture, after they leave these elementary standards, want to work as clerks and want to behave as other people behave. So with what little education they had in those schools where general education is given to them they will not be useful to do anything in the world. I prepared a whole lot to speak upon and I do not know how to abridge

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it. These general schools are not very much appreciated either by the depressed class children or their parents. If some rural schools are established where blacksmithy and carpentry are taught, they will be greatly useful to the children of the depressed classes. If at all they leave the schools they will know how to earn their livelihood. Under the present system the boy who is taken away from his daily labour does not know how to earn his livelihood afterwards. So I request that the Hon. Minister will in future be pleased to introduce either agriculture or blacksmithy or carpentry in these schools started for the depressed classes and thus earn the gratitude of the depressed classes who will sing to the glory of the Hon. the Minister for Education."

The House then adjourned to meet again at 11 a.m. on 23rd March 1936.

D. K. V. RAGHAVA VARMA,
Acting Secretary to the Legislative Council.

[21st March 1936

APPENDIX I.

[Vide answer to question No. 993 asked by Mr. M. Devadasan at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 21st March 1936, page 711 supra.]

Designation.	Qualification.
Principal	A member of the Madras Medical Service who has made a special study of the indigenous systems of medicine. B.A., B.L., M.B.C.M., and Vaidyaratna.
Lecturers in Indian subjects.	
1 Ayurveda, Telugu	Ayurveda Acharya of the All-India Ayurveda Vidya Pitha and was a teacher in Sanskrit and Telugu classes of the Madras Ayurvedic College for about six years from 1915–20.
2 Do. Tamil	Vidwan of the Madras University. Traditional training in Ayurveda for seven years and also practical training under Bengal Kavi Rajas.
3 Siddha and Resident Physician.	Traditional training with experience in the practice of the Siddha Medicine for over thirty years (also a Matriculate) and Vaidya Ratna.
4 Unani	First-class graduate of the Madarsai Takmila-thibb Arabic College, Lucknow.
Allopathic subjects.	
5 Physiology and Hygiene (Resident Surgeon).	M.B.B.S., F.I.M.
6 First Allopathic Lecturer (Midwifery and Pathology).	L. M. & S. (Madras), L.R.C.P. (London), M.R.C.S. (Eng.), D.T.M. & H. (Lond.).
7 Second Allopathic Lecturer ..	L.M. & S.
Assistant Lecturers.	
1 Ayurveda, Telugu	Ayurveda Bhushana of the Madras Ayurvedic College and Ayurveda Acharya of the All-India Ayurveda Vidya Peetha.
2 Do. Tamil	Ayurveda Bhushana of the Madras Ayurvedic College and Ayurveda Visarada.
3 Unani	Graduate of the Quddosia Tibbi College, Triplicane.
4 Do.	A.L.I.M., Graduate of the Madarsa Thibia Lahore, and Madarsai Hyderia, Madras.
5 Assistant Lecturer (Resident Assistant Medical Officer).	L.M.P.
6 Ayurveda, Telugu 1	L.I.M.
7 & 8 Do. Tamil 2	L.I.Ms.
9 & 10 Siddha 2	Do.
Herbarium Superintendent and Lecturer in General Science.	B.Sc. (Agri.), Dip. (Germ.), Dip. (French).
Demonstrators	L.I.Ms.

APPENDIX II.

[Vide answer to question No. 995 asked by Mr. A. B. Shetty at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 21st March 1936, page 712 supra.]

Statement showing the names of the district boards which have submitted their budgets for 1936–37 *and the surplus or deficit shown under the General Account.*

Name of the district board.	Surplus (+) or deficit (−) under the General Account according to the budget as framed by the district board after providing for capital expenditure.
	RS.
1 Coimbatore	+ 68,250
2 West Godavari	+ 20,720
3 West Tanjore	— 1,85,750
4 East Tanjore	— 1,33,530
5 Salem	— 1,64,810
6 Malabar	— 1,57,630
7 Chingleput	— 1,10,060
8 Ramnad	— 9,190
9 Tinnevelly	+ 100
10 Nilgiris	+ 10,450

THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF THE GOVERNOR OF MADRAS.

Monday, the 23rd March 1936.

The House met at eleven of the clock, Mr. President (the Hon. :. B. Ramachandra Reddi) in the Chair.

PRESENT:

ddi Nayudu, *Kt.*, The Hon. Rai Bahadur Sir K. V.
ınnirselvam, The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T.
›uter, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., I.C.S., The Hon. Sir Charles.
racken, C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S., The Hon. Mr. G. T. H.
:aja of Bobbili, The Hon. the.
:ajan, The Hon. Mr. P. T.
:umaraswami Reddiyar, The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S.
ıbdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur.
hmed Meeran Sahib Bahadur. A. M.
Alamelumangathayaramma, Mrs. K.
Annamalai Chettiyar, Mr. S. A. A.
Appadurai Pillai, Diwan Bahadur A.
Arasu, Mr. V. T.
Basheer Ahmed Sayeed Sahib Bahadur.
Basu Dev, Mr. C.
Beyabani Sahib Bahadur, S. M. K.
Dalavoi, Mr. R.
Devadasan, Mr. M.
Dharmalingam Pillai, Rao Sahib V.
Duraiswami Reddiyar, Mr. K. M.
Foulkes, Mr. G. F. F.
Gopalaswami Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur M.
Halasyam Ayyar, Mr. N.
Harischandrudu Nayudu, Mr. A.
Hood, C.I.E., I.C.S., Mr. H. M.
Indrayya, Mr. C.
Iswaran Pillai, Mr. I. C.
Jagannatha Raju, Rao Bahadur G.
Jagannatham, Mr. H. M.
Jayaram Nayudu, Rao Sahib C.
Jones, I.C.S., Mr. C. E.
Kesavaramamurti Nayudu, Mr. K.
Kolanda Reddi, Rai Sahib C.
Koti Reddi, Mr. K.
Krishnayya Choudari, Mr. P. V.
Krishnamurti, Rao Bahadur D.
Langley, Mr. W. K. M.
Madanagopal Nayudu, Mr. R.
Manikkavelu Nayakar, Mr. M. A.
Moidoo Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur T. M.
Moses, Mr. P. C.
Muhammad Meera Ravuttar, Mr. K. P. V. S.
Muniswami Pillai, Rao Sahib V. I.
Muthu Chettiyar, Rao Bahadur P. C.
Nachiyappa Gounder, Mr. K. A.
Nanjappa Bahadur, Rao Bahadur Subadar-Major S. A.
Narasa Reddi, Mr. T.
Narasimhaswami, Rao Sahib D. V.
Narayanan Nambiyar, Mr. V. P.
Natesa Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur C.
Obi Reddi, Mr. C.
Palat, Mr. R. M.
Parthasarathi Ayyangar, Mr. C. R.
Patnaik Mahasayo, Sriman M. G.
Patro, K.C.I.E., Rao Bahadur Sir A. P.
Peddi Raju, Mr. P.
Poker Sahib Bahadur, B.
Premayya, Mr. G. R.
Rajagopala Pillai, Mr. P. V.
Raja of Khallikote, The.
Ramachandra Padayachi, Mr. P. K.
Ramakrishna Reddi, Mr. A.
Ramalingam Chettiyar, Diwan Bahadur T. A.
Ramamurti, Rao Sahib Pandit Ganala.
Raman Menon, Mr. K. P.
Ramaswami Ayyar, Mr. T. S.
Ramaswami Mudaliyar, Mr. V. M.
Rameswara Rao, Mr. G.
Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. A.
Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. G.
Ranganatham, Mr. N.
Rangaswami Reddi, Mr. M. B.
Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur C. S.
Ratnavelu Thevar, Mr. P.
Reid, Mr. D. M.
Rukmani Lakshmipathi, Mrs. A
Russell, I.C.S., Mr. T. B.
Sahajanandam, Swami A. S.
Schamnad Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur Mahmud.
Scott Brown, I.C.S., Mr. W.
Sesha Reddi, Rao Bahadur B. P.
Shetty, Mr. A. B.
Simhachalam Pantulu, Mr. G.
Siva Raj, Rao Sahib N.
Smith, Mr. J. M.
Sreshta, Mr. M. S.
Srinivasan, Diwan Bahadur R.
Sriramulu, Mr. G.
Stanes, Mr. F. J.
Subbarayan, Dr. P.
Subrahmanya Bhatt, Mr. U. C
Sundara Rao Nayudu, Mr. T.
Syed Tajndin Sahib Bahadur, Khan Sahib.

PRESENT—*cont.*

Thangal, Mr. P. M.
Thomas, Mr. Daniel.
Uzielli, C.I.E., I.C.S., Mr. H. R.
Vasudeva Pillai, Mr. V. G.
Venkatarama Ayyar, Mr. K. R.
Venugopal Nayudu, Rao Bahadur R. K.
Wright, Sir William.
Yakub Hasan Sahib Bahadur.
Zamindar of Bodinayakkanur, The.
Zamindar of Chemudu, The.
Zamindar of Kirlampudi, The.
Zamindar of Mirzapuram, The.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS

Local Self-Government

Appointment of a Special Officer for the investigation of the financial position of district boards with a view to their bifurcation.

* 1003 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that a Special Officer has been appointed for investigating the financial position of district boards with a view to the bifurcation of those bodies;

(*b*) if so, when and for how long the appointment has been made;

(*c*) who the person appointed is; what his present pay and scale of pay and allowances, if any, are; and

(*d*) what the pay and scale of pay drawn by him and the post held by him previously were?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The post has been sanctioned for a period of six months from the date of appointment.

(*c*) & (*d*) M.R.Ry. T. S. Rajamayya Avargal, Deputy Collector, General Duty, Tanjore, has been appointed. His pay as Deputy Collector is Rs. 750 in the scale of Rs. 300—40—500—50—850. While on this special duty, he will draw this pay *plus* a special pay of Rs. 50 *plus* Madras House Allowance.

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—" May I ask the Hon. Minister whether the Special Officer has joined his appointment and taken up his duties? "

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—" He was expected to join in a day or two but I have not received official information that he has actually taken charge."

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—" May I ask whether he has been given any instruction with regard to the work he has to do? "

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—" I understand, Sir, that he has taken charge yesterday. As regards instructions to the Special Officer, I am not in a position to state anything exactly except to draw the attention of the House to the Press Communiqué published some time ago."

Mr. K. KOTI REDDI:—" May I know the sort of instructions that will be given to this Special Officer? For instance, will he be told that such and such boards appear in the opinion of the Government to be financially sound or will he be left to investigate the matter himself? "

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—" The difficulty is that Government cannot form any opinion until each case is looked into by the Special Officer. It is the duty of the Special Officer to collect facts and figures in the case of the district boards which have not so far been bifurcated."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" May I ask whether the Government have got any idea of the length of time that this officer may require to complete his investigation? "

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—" I do not think it is possible to have any idea."

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—" May I ask whether any list of districts in some serial order has been drawn up for the guidance of the Special Officer in making the examination for bifurcation? "

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—" I have already stated that all the unbifurcated district boards will be taken up. I do not think any further list is necesasry for his guidance."

Proposals for the bifurcation of the District Boards of Trichinopoly, Tinnevelly, Chittoor, South Kanara, Kurnool, Anantapur and South Arcot.

* 1004 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there are any proposals for the bifurcation of Trichinopoly, Tinnevelly, Chittoor, South Kanara, Kurnool, Anantapur and South Arcot District Boards;

(*b*) if so, at what stage the proposals with regard to each are; and when they are likely to be brought into effect;

(*c*) when the elections with regard to each of these district boards have been completed; and

(*d*) what the reasons are for taking up the question of bifurcation now soon after the elections and not before?

A.—(*a*) No. Attention is invited to the Press Communiqué, dated the 15th January 1936, on the subject of bifurcation of district boards.

(*b*) Does not arise.

(*c*) Attention is invited to the answers given to clause (*d*) of question No. 928, to clause (*a*) of question No. 906 and to clauses (*a*) and (*b*) of question No. 907.

(*d*) Does not arise.

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Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—"Since the Press Communiqué was issued some time back, may I ask whether any further development has taken place and decision reached with regard to the serial order in which these districts have to be taken up for investigation?"

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"The Government do not propose to lay down any order."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I ask the length of time that will be required to completely give effect to the policy laid down in the Press Communiqué?"

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"I am afraid I am unable to answer the question."

Proposals for the bifurcation of the South Kanara District Board.

*1005 *Q.*—Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there are any proposals before the Government to bifurcate the district board of South Kanara; if so, who made the said proposals and what are the grounds on which bifurcation is urged;

(*b*) whether the Collector has been consulted or has reported regarding the bifurcation; if so, whether the Hon. the Minister will be pleased to place a copy of the report on the table of the House; and

(*c*) what action the Government have taken or propose to take in the matter?

A.—(*a*) No. Attention is invited to the Press Communiqué, datec the 15th January 1936, regarding bifurcation of distric boards.

(*b*) ... not arise.

(*c*) Do.

Mr. U. C. SUB... ...MANYA BHATT:—"Sir, the answer to clause (*b*) is 'No.' May I ask wi... ...ther, when people speaking one language a... going to be put along with people speaking quite a different languag... for the purpose of the formation of these new boards, the Governme... will consult the wishes of the people who will be affected?"

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"I do not think the question aris... There is nothing that I can add to what is stated in the Pr... Communiqué."

Proposal to transfer Puthur and Kasaragod taluks to the North Malabar District Board under formation.

*1006 *Q.*—Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT: Will the Hon. Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Puthur and Kasaragod taluks proposed to be taken away from the South Kanara and joined with northern taluks of Malabar to form a North Malabar Board; and

(*b*) whether any linguistic or other principle is followed in bi... cating the district board; if so, what the same is?

A.—(*a*) No. Representations have been received from certain organizations of the Malabar district urging the inclusion of Malayalam-speaking area of the South Kanara district in the jurisdiction of the proposed North Malabar District Board.

(*b*) Attention is invited to the Press Communiqué, dated 15th January 1936, regarding bifurcation of district boards. No linguistic principle is followed.

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur:—"With reference to the answer to clause (*a*) of the question, may I know how many representations have been received from those organizations?"

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"I am afraid I cannot give the exact number."

Declaration as to the political leanings of candidates seeking election to district boards.

* 1007 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the candidates are required to declare to which political party each of them belongs at the time of filing their nominations for the election of members of district boards and municipalities; and

(*b*) if so, how many members have been returned on the 'Congress' ticket, how many on the 'Justice' ticket and how many as 'Independents' in each district in the new general elections of district boards that took place from 1st January 1935?

A.—(*a*) No.

(*b*) The Government have no information.

Political label of the successful candidates in the district board elections, Chittoor.

* 1008 *Q.*—Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Inspector of Local Boards inquired of the successful candidates in the Chittoor District Board elections or elsewhere as to the political party they belonged;

(*b*) the object of such enquiry;

(*c*) whether he did so at his own instance or at the instance of the Government;

(*d*) under what provisions was such an inquiry made; and

(*e*) what the information he gathered is regarding each of the district boards where elections were held, as to the political colour of the successful candidates?

A.—(*a*) The Inspector of Local Boards made no such direct inquiry from any candidate. He asked Tahsildars as Election Officers to furnish the information, if possessed of it and one or two such officers thought it best to make the inquiry direct from some candidates.

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(*b*) To ascertain, if possible, what political party, if any, had obtained a majority of votes.

(*c*) At the instance of Government.

(*d*) None. No provision of law is necessary to enable Government to obtain information of public interest.

(*e*) The information furnished was inconclusive.

Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar:—" Arising out of the answer to clause (*e*), may I ask what the Government mean by saying that the information furnished was inconclusive? Do they mean that the strength of the parties was so equally balanced that it was not possible to say which party got more and which less? "

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—" The information was received only in the case of a few candidates; it was not complete."

Mr. K. Koti Reddi:—" Sir, if the Government thought it necessary in the public interest to ask to which party each member of the district board belonged, may I ask why they did not make it incumbent on the candidate to declare even before the election to which particular party he belonged? "

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—" The Government never intended to issue any instructions to the candidates themselves. The idea apparently was to get such information as was available to the election officers. As regards the suggestion of my hon. Friend, I do not think Government can compel candidates to declare the party to which they belong at the time of nomination."

Mr. K. Koti Reddi:—" Could not the Government ask the candidates whether they belong to a particular political party or not if they think that it is necessary in the public interest? "

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—" It is open to the Governmen to ask and it is open to the candidate either to give the informatio or refuse to give the information."

Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt:—" May I ask whether the electio officers in other districts, for instance in South Kanara, asked th candidates to which party they belonged? "

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—" I am not aware of it. I mu ask for notice."

Alleged unsatisfactory working of certain Panchayat Boards in Puttur taluk, South Kanara.

* 1009 *Q.*—Mr. M. S. Sreshta: Will the Hon. the Minister Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that Kangur, Balandur and Kudm Panchayat Boards are not working and that the President, Kan Panchayat Board in Puttur taluk, South Kanara, does not call hims its President; if so, what action has been taken by the Government;

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(b) whether it is a fact that these panchayat boards in Puttur taluk are not working satisfactorily and that there is no control over them and that the panchayat officers have not the necessary powers to deal with them?

A.—(a) No. Presumably the hon. Member means Kaniyur, the president of which board is functioning.

(b) No. The Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards exercises control over these panchayats in consultation with the District Panchayat Officers.

Resolution of the Corporation of Madras for the reduction of the licence fee on cycles.

* 1010 Q.—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Council of the Madras Corporation has passed a resolution reducing the licence fees on cycles, and approached the Government for according sanction for the same;

(b) if so, what orders have been passed thereon and whether a copy of it will be placed on the table together with a copy of the resolution of the Corporation; and

(c) what the rates of licence fees on cycles in the Corporation are, as existed and as proposed?

A.—(a) The Government have no information; the sanction of Government is not required for a reduction in the rate of levy of the tax.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Government have no information.

Education

Number of applications received by the Director of Public Instruction from depressed class candidates for the award of scholarships during the year 1935.

* 1011 Q.—Mr. M. DEVADASAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) how many applications were received by the Director of Public Instruction for the grant of scholarships in the year 1935;

(b) how many of the applicants belonged to the depressed classes;

(c) how many of the applicants belonged to the Indian Christians of the depressed class origin; and

(d) how many of the applicants referred to in (b) and (c) (separately) were given scholarships?

A.—(a) Two hundred and eighty-four.

(b) Forty-three.

(c) Eight.

(d) Non-Christians—11.
Christians—4.

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Medical Administration

Competence of L.I.M. practitioners to issue wound certificates.

* 1012 *Q.*—Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister or Education and Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether medical practitioners of the status of L.I.M. were allowed to issue wound certificates in private or police cases in 1933;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that recently an order was issued that certificates issued by such doctors were not to be recognized;

(*c*) whether the Government would be pleased to place all the enabling and disabling orders on the table of this House; and

(*d*) the reasons for the later disabling orders, if any?

A.—(*a*) The hon. Member is referred to rule 2 of the rules published in G.O. No. 231, P.H., dated the 1st February 1933 (copy placed on the table). No other orders were issued on the subject.

(*b*) No.

(*c*) & (*d*) The question does not arise.

Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO:—" May I take it that the L.I.Ms. are now qualified to issue wound certificates? "

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" There is nothing to prevent them from issuing such certificates to any party who applies to them."

Transfer of the quarters for the Medical Staff at Cauvery-Mettur to the District Board, Salem.

* 1013 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that quarters for the medical officer and other subordinates at Cauvery-Mettur were not given over to the Salem District Board when the premises of the hospital of the place had been handed over to the said body; and

(*b*) if so, what the reasons are for withholding the said buildings?

A.—(*a*) The position is as stated except that quarters for the midwife were transferred to the district board free of cost and rent as the midwife was eligible for rent-free quarters.

(*b*) Only such buildings as were necessary for the working of the hospital were transferred to the district board (subject to certain conditions regarding their maintenance etc.). The members of the hospital staff are occupying the Government quarters on payment of rent on the scal prescribed for Government servants.

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—" May I ask why the quarter of the medical officers have not been transferred to the district boar when the hospital itself has been transferred to them? "

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" Becau the medical officers were not entitled to free quarters."

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Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder:—" May I ask whether the medical officers who were in charge of the hospital before it was transferred to the district board were not allowed free quarters? "

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar:—" All the officers that were so allowed were given some concessions during the time the project was under construction. These concessions were withdrawn as soon as the project was finished."

Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder:—" May I ask whether it is not justifiable to hand over these quarters also for the accommodation of the medical officer since the dispensary has been handed over to the district board and even now exists mainly for the use of the people connected with the work of the Mettur dam? "

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar:—" I do not think so."

[*Note.*—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

II.—ADJOURNMENT MOTION *RE* THE ENHANCEMENT OF PROVINCIAL TAX ON MOTOR BUSES.

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan:—" Mr. President, Sir, I beg leave to move under Standing Order No. 19 that the business of the House be adjourned for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance, to wit, the recent enhancement of the provincial tax on motor buses from Rs. 7–8–0 per seat to Rs. 8–12–0.

" Sir, in moving this motion, I do not think many words are necessary except to point out that I did not bring it forward earlier because the persons affected by this enhancement of the tax were considering the possibility of taking other steps to make representations to the Government and also because the enhanced tax comes into force only from the 1st of April. Another reason why I have brought this motion at this stage is that Demand XXVII—Miscellaneous Departments—Reserved, cannot be taken up for discussion before the 27th instant. Under these circumstances I request the House to give leave to move this motion."

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—" Sir, the rate has been raised under section 4 (2) of the Motor Vehicles Taxation Act, 1931. The Government Order was issued on the 24th February last, nearly a month ago. Personally I do not see any urgency in the matter. Moreover, Sir, the Government have only acted within the limits of the rates in the schedule to the Act passed by this House. I therefore do not consider that the matter is either urgent or of sufficient importance."

* The Hon. the President:—" Since the motion refers to the further enhancement of the tax, I think it is of sufficient public importance. I hold that it is in order and I admit the adjournment motion. Does any hon. Member object? (After a pause.) *No objection having been taken*, the motion will be taken up for discussion at 4 p.m. to-day."

III.—BUDGET FOR 1936-37—VOTING OF DEMANDS FOR GRANTS—*cont.*

DEMAND XVII—EDUCATION—TRANSFERRED—*cont.*

The discussion on the above Demand was resumed.

15 Mr. T. S. Ramaswami Ayyar:—" Mr. President, Sir, speaking on
n. this motion I shall try to be as brief as possible. At the outset I want to refer to the policy of the Government with regard to elementary education. When Mr. Gokhale introduced his Bill in 1911, he laid great stress on the need for compulsion. The Act of 1870 introducing compulsion in England and Wales was introduced by Mr. Gladstone at a time when even in that advanced country compulsion was necessary. If that is so, I think in a country like India it is absolutely necessary that the Government should use compulsion if illiteracy is to be removed from the country. From the figures given by the Government I find that the percentage of male pupils in elementary schools is only 8·5. I think it shows that progess has not been made as expected with regard to the spread of elementary education. It is often contended by the Government that the spread of elementary education is handicapped for want of funds. With regard to that I shall refer to the Hartog Committee. They say:

'Making all allowances for these circumstances, we cannot resist the conclusion that the present waste of money and effort in mass education is attributable in most provinces to the fact that no well-defined policy for its extension has been inherited from the old regime or constructed under the new one. Without a real effort to eliminate waste and ineffectiveness by means of a courageous and well-directed policy, there can be little hope of improvement in the future. There is a common impression that success in extending education is merely a question of money. It is not so; money is no doubt necessary, but the expenditure of money, without the resolute, consistent and continuous execution of policy will do little or nothing.'

" I would like to know whether the present Government has formulated any courageous and well-directed policy and that policy has been pursued. The Hartog Committee sent up its report in 1929. Then we have the report of Mr. Champion issued a few months later which refers to the waste in elementary education. According to Mr. Champion, the elementary schools in our Province do not satisfy the two tests, namely, educational efficiency and financial economy. I therefore want to know from the Hon. Minister what has been done to improve educational efficiency or financial economy, in the matter of elementary education in this Province. Mr. Champion's scheme has been discussed threadbare in the country and opinions have been expressed on the floor of this House and outside. But with regard to the execution of the scheme I am afraid that the Hon. Minister sometimes takes two steps backward, if he takes one step forward. It may be that public agitation in the matter has been strong. I do not propose to say now whether all the statements made with regard to the Champion scheme are correct or not. There are many well-considered schemes that are followed in other countries. The question is how far the scheme can be applied to this country, taking the circumstances of our country into consideration. If once you make up your mind that the scheme should be given effect to, I wonder whether any difficulty would arise at all. As a matter of fact the scheme is

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intended to effect economy. So, it is not a question of requiring more funds. I therefore want to know what the Hon. Minister thinks on this matter. The other day the Hon. Minister, when referring to the remarks of Mrs. Rukmani Lakshmipathi on the Demand regarding the Ministers' salaries, spoke of the two amending Acts that he was responsible for. I think the Act which refers to this question is the Act which introduces modified compulsion. He also said that this Act has been copied and is about to be put into force in Bengal also. But my submission is that this is only tinkering with the problem. There is no bold programme. When once it has been pointed out that there is great need to check the great waste and to spread elementary education, I wonder how a small Act that merely says that the parent who sends his children to the elementary school for a certain period, would be punished if he does not continue the education of his children will solve the problem. I do admit that it improves matters. But it will not solve the great problem. The large problem of the young boys who should be in the school and who are not there, will have to be solved. The Hon. Minister stated that he has got a ten-year programme. I should like to ask the Hon. Minister whether the ten-year programme is to be given effect to at the beginning of the ten years or at the end of the ten years. It should have been done years ago and the Hon. Minister deplored the fact that of late he is not having the co-operation of the Members of the Opposition. Many Members of the Opposition have done their best in the direction of co-operating with the Hon. Minister; sometimes they found that their help was not needed on many occasions. Therefore it cannot be contended that Members of the Opposition did not help the Government as regards the solution of this great problem.

"Then, Sir, I feel that the amount spent on secondary education is not adequate at all. There cannot be too much of higher education in a country where there is so much illiteracy. People have been saying that, because there is unemployment among educated people, they should put an end to higher education. I am afraid, Sir, that that is a wrong remedy. I would indeed prefer the unemployed educated man to the employed illiterate. The possession of knowledge is the test. This country cannot take her right place among the great nations of the world, unless elementary education is pushed forward and great impetus is given to secondary education. In this connexion I must point out that the Grant-in-aid Code is illiberal and requires revision.

"There is another point to which I should like to refer and it is this; the teachers who are entrusted with the work of imparting education in this country have been complaining that their position is very bad. In other countries, the teacher's profession is a great and noble one. In this country also it was and should be considered as a noble one. But now, the profession is very much ill-paid and there is no security of tenure; the terms of service are not good. We find that teachers employed for a number of years in aided schools, are sent

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away without any previous notice. I know of cases where the teachers are sent away before the end of the school year and thereby the management saves some money by way of vacation salary of the teachers. Is this thing to be tolerated? I feel, Sir, that the Government should enquire into the condition of service of the teaching profession in this Province. I know, Sir, that some circulars have been sent asking the management to conform to certain standards and asking them to send up the terms of service in their schools. I know that the terms of service vary from school to school. I would therefore suggest that the Government should try to introduce a uniform grade for all teachers. We have got that system with regard to the employees of local boards, for example the Engineering section and other sections. A District Board Engineer can be transferred from one district to another. The District Board Engineers have got a uniform scale of pay. Other employees of local boards also have uniform conditions of service. My hon. Friend, Mr. Basu Dev, is interesting himself a lot in this direction and I can assure him that he has got the support of all Members in the House. But very little has been done in the matter of the terms of service of the teachers. If the Government would fix a uniform grade of pay for teachers in all the schools and would make arrangements to transfer them from one school to another I think the profession would advance very much.

" Coming to the question of collegiate education, I should say tha the Government should try to utilize the teaching resources of all th colleges. I think that University professors who do research wor should be asked to take up the classes also for a brief period. Mor co-ordination between University professors and the professors of cor stituent and affiliated colleges should exist. Again between th professors of one college and another, there should be more co-oper tion. That principle should be extended to the mufassal also. I sugge that the scheme of honorary readers should be enlarged so as to gi more opportunities for research talent available in colleges.

11-30 a.m. " I desire at this stage to refer to one order of Government whi states that no grant should be given for expenditure involved teachers' camps. Recently this has been the subject of controvers Government seem to think that money spent on teachers' camps shou not be charged to Government revenues; I think that is not a corr view. A teachers' camp very often acts as a refresher course and an opportunity for exchange of views; it is a method for making t teachers come into line with modern tendencies in the teachi profession.

" Finally, Sir, I desire to refer to the needs of that great insti tion in Madras which was founded years ago by the great Pachayap That college has recently been finding it difficult to maintain itself a good condition. The college was started as early as 1842; it has three schools, the Govindappa Naicker's Middle School, the Pach appa's College School and another school, I think, in Conjeever It has got the Honours History, Economics and Philosophy secti

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In the year 1914, the college started a hostel in Chetpat, with the idea that later on the college itself should be shifted to that place, so that it could be a sort of residential college. With this end of view, some 30 acres of ground have been secured. I understand that the trustees have got some money on hand, about Rs. 70.000 or so; they also expect to get one or two lakhs from Govindappa Naicker's charities, which is an institution affiliated to this college and a lakh more from public donations. It is the duty of the Government to accept the proposal of the trustees to shift the college to Chetpat, and help the institution financially. The Government need not pay all the money immediately; if only they could promise that in the course of the next two or three years, they would be able to find the necessary funds, the authorities could start the scheme at once. I understand the trustees have also requested the Government to help them make up the deficit. The question is probably engaging the attention of the Government; I think it has been considered and passed by the Finance Committee and awaits the approval of the Legislative Council. On the question of the college being built at Chetpat, it is absolutely necessary that the Government should encourage the Pachayappa's College as much as possible."

* Mrs. K. ALAMELUMANGATHAYARAMMA spoke in Tamil, and the following is a summary of her speech:—

"Mr. President, the previous speaker has already referred to the necessity for the greater widespread of elementary education in this Province. I need not therefore add anything except that compulsion should be insisted on in the case of girls also. If education is to be more widespread, we should encourage more and more private schools coming into being. Unfortunately, of late, Government have been reducing the allotment for elementary education; greater provision should be made for the purpose, and more grants should be given to the private schools.

"Secondly, sufficient accommodation is not available in the schools and there are practically no playgrounds. More building grants should therefore be given to the institutions. We know that a large sum of money has been recently set apart for rural reconstruction work. I request that in the distribution of the amount, Government will bear in mind the necessity for having more school buildings and playgrounds.

"In most of the existing high schools, sufficient facilities are not being afforded to girls. There is only one high school for girls in the whole of Georgetown which is being run by U.F.C.M. Mission. There is no playground for this school. I appeal to the Government that they should secure a decent playground for this school. I also emphasise the necessity of establishing another high school for girls in a central locality in Georgetown.

"With regard to the Pachayappa's College, I understand the trustees have approached the Government for a special grant of Rs. 20,000. The Director of Public Instruction seems to have

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commended only Rs. 11,000, but the Government reduced it to s. 10,000. The latest information is that the Finance Committee nctioned Rs. 5,000 and asked the Government to get the sanction of ne Legislative Council for the other Rs. 5,000 as it was to be classed s 'new service.' I hope the matter will be disposed of early and a ecent grant will be made. With reference to the building grant for he residential quarters of Pachayappa's College it is understood that he trustees have about Rs. 3 lakhs with them. If Government come forward with an initial grant of Rs. 3 lakhs as donation for building the college at Chetpat, the trustees are prepared to start a residential college. In the past, the Government have given such donations, for instance, about Rs. 16 lakhs to the Christian College. I appeal to the Government therefore to be pleased to give a generous donation to Pachayappa's College also, the premier Hindu institute in South India which is doing very good service. This college was started in 1842 with Indian endowments and funds and deserves special consideration.

"In the matter of research work, girls reading in the B.A. (Hon.) and M.A. classes do not have the same facilities as boys have. I appeal to the Government to provide facilities in that direction for lady students also.

"Another important point I wish to refer to is this: At present, minimum marks are prescribed for passing in the University Examinations which works a great hardship on poor boys and girls who have to complete their education fighting against odds, i.e., poverty and want of facilities.

"If in the case of such poor boys, they get two or three marks below the prescribed minimum, they are detained in spite of the fact that their progress in the class throughout the year was satisfactory. Their lot is hence rendered miserable. Such hardship is all the more poignant in the case of poor girls. I request that the Government will be pleased to issue orders that some special consideration should be shown in such cases.

"Again, in regard to the L.T. course, it seems there is some restriction with regard to the age of the candidates applying for admission. This restriction works a serious hardship on the female candidates, and I suggest it should be removed.

"I am glad to find from the Administration Report (Law and Education Department) for 1934–35 that the Government have approved of the proposal for having vernacular text-books in the various subjects. I also understand that subjects are taught in the vernacular in the model school attached to the Teachers' College at Saidapet. Although vernacular typewriting has been approved by Government it is a pity that it has not been so far given effect to. I request tha steps should be taken for its encouragement.

"I also understand that Government approved the revised sylla buses in needle work and dress-making and embroidery and lace making and directed that the new syllabuses should come into forc from the examination of November of 1935. I have great pleasure ... ment for this act of usefulness.

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"I hope, Sir, that the Hon. the Minister will consider all these points and give greater encouragement to female education."

* Mr. V. P. Narayanan Nambiyar:—"Mr. President, I assure you that I shall finish my say within three minutes. Sir, in the course of the address that His Excellency the Governor delivered in opening the present Legislative Council in 1930 it was said that so far as education is concerned, the funds available will primarily be devoted to the spread of elementary education. That statement was welcomed by all sections of the House and it was believed that problems connected with elementary education would be dealt with effectively. Though five years have now elapsed, elementary education has not made the progress that it should have made and complaints of wastage continue. I shall not deal with the variety of causes that have given rise to the present position, but shall refer briefly to one cause that goes to the root of the matter, namely, grant-in-aid to aided schools. In this connexion, I welcome the following statement in the budget speech of the Hon. the Finance Member: 11-4 a.m.

'On the expenditure side the progress of expenditure has been normal in accordance with expectation, but I would invite the attention of hon. Members to the fact that an additional four lakhs has been provided for elementary education to reduce the cut in the assessed grants to aided schools.'

So far so good. Now, with reference to the grants-in-aid to elementary schools, the question has to be viewed from two standpoints. One is the amount of grant, and second is the wrong assumption on which grants are based. Regarding the amount of grant, it will be seen, that for 1933–34 for 19,372 elementary schools under local boards and municipalities an amount of Rs. 69,26,546 and for 26,355 aided elementary schools only Rs. 45,45,654 were spent from provincial funds. Coming again to the year 1934–35, for 19,240 local boards and municipal elementary schools a sum of Rs. 70,94,625 and for 26,210 aided elementary schools only a sum of Rs. 53,60,768 were spent. There is glaring disparity between the figures under the two different heads. That ought not to be. There should be a just correspondence between the local board and municipal elementary schools and the aided elementary schools; and speedy steps should also be taken to bring the amount of pay of aided school teachers on a line with the scale sanctioned for local boards and municipalities. Now, to the wrong assumption on which the grant is based. The grant-in-aid is supposed to be an aid in addition to the amount which private agencies spend on elementary education. But Government knows, as well as anybody else, that many private individuals look upon the grant from a business point of view. Not only do they not spend out of their pockets, but they treat the grant merely as a source of livelihood. That being so, the teachers employed by such managers suffer great hardships. The sense of security which attracts good men to the service is entirely absent. I request the Hon. the Education Minister to go into the question very carefully. Here may I also say that educational councils must be composed of persons really interested in education, and provision should be made on that body for representatives of aided school teachers.

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" Sir, if these adjustments are made, I am sure that with increased opportunities under the new constitution and with the dawn of better financial times it will be possible to end illiteracy and to enable the ordinary villager function as a civilized citizen.

" Before I conclude, I join with my hon. Friend, Mr. K. P. Raman Menon, in the appeal that he made about the abolition of certain branches of studies in the Government Victoria College, Palghat. That is a very hard hit to Malabar. I hope the Hon. the Education Minister will come forward and help the Government Victoria College with the same earnestness and enthusiasm with which he helped the Government Brennen College, Tellicherry. In this connexion, I must say that frequent transfers in the middle of terms of teachers and lecturers in Government institutions should be avoided. Finally, may I also bring to the notice of Government that there is a united demand from both Hindus and Mussalmans of Tellicherry for starting a high school for women at Tellicherry."

* The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" Mr. President, Sir, in the debate on this demand there has been much less comment either favourable or adverse on the Champion Scheme than in previous years. But, however, the two extreme points of view that are entertained in connexion with this scheme have both been well represented by the speakers who spoke on this subject. Some Members of the House have charged the Government with inactivity in enforcing the scheme by effective coercive measures. On the other hand, some other Members of this hon. House have complained that th scheme is being enforced to the detriment of the interests of the com munities or areas that they represent in this House. As I have sai on former occasions, the correct position is perhaps somewhere betwee these two courses. Hon. Members are aware that this scheme of co centration and consolidation which is associated with the name of th late Mr. Champion was promulgated by the Government in the ye 1930, and was commended to local boards for adoption by them as far it was possible to do so. As the local bodies were slow in taking action regard to this matter, the Government directed their educational offic to prepare schemes for consolidation and concentration by themsel and to submit them to the Government. In pursuance of this dir tion, schemes were prepared by the educational authorities in district for the areas within their jurisdiction. The Government as the Director to scrutinize only those schemes which related to mu cipal areas deferring the examination of the schemes for rural a to a later period. After examining the schemes for the munic areas, the Director submitted them to the Government for their appr and final orders. While these schemes were under examination the Government, Mr. Champion, who had by that time become Dire of Public Instruction, requested that the schemes might be rem to him for further scrutiny, and so they were sent back and are u the further scrutiny of the Director of Public Instruction. This i position so far as schemes prepared by the educational authoriti the Government are concerned.

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"With regard to the scheme itself, that is the scheme of concentration and consolidation prepared by Mr. Champion, I may be permitted to say, Sir, that the scheme is nothing of a revolutionary character. The principles on which he proceeded to frame that scheme were neither strange nor novel. The enormous wastage of educational effort and of money under our present system of elementary education is generally admitted, and the causes for that wastage are also fairly well known. The measures that could be devised for eliminating this wastage would easily be apparent to anybody who is willing to bestow a certain amount of thought on this matter. All that Mr. Champion did in evolving this scheme was to reduce to a practical and workable form measures for consolidation and concentration which would have occurred to anybody who, as I said, was prepared to bestow some intelligent thought on the subject. This scheme, as I said, has been before the public from the year 1930 and there has been a great deal of propaganda both for and against this scheme. As a result of the publicity that has been consequently given to the scheme, and of the discussions that have taken place in connexion with the scheme, all people who are interested in education have now become quite familiar with the principles and objects of the scheme; and the scheme itself, I venture to submit, Sir, has gained in popular support. As a result of these circumstances, viz., that the principles have become well known and the scheme itself has become popular, some local bodies, without any kind of outside pressure, without any orders of Government, were prepared to amalgamate schools within their areas—not only local bodies but some enthusiasts of the District Educational Council, like our hon. Friend, Mr. Krishnayya Choudari—undertook to formulate schemes for consolidation and concentration within their areas. And they have been gradually introducing them. I am afraid my hon. Friend, Mr. Hameed Khan, was referring to an instance of this kind when he said that I have broken the pledge which I have given in previous years, that the Government would not enforce this scheme without careful examination. I may say for the hon. Member's information, that the state of things this year remains the same as it was in the previous year. Government have not yet passed orders calling upon their educational authorities to enforce any scheme in any area whatsoever—urban or rural. But while the Government are not prepared to force their own schemes on unwilling managements, they cannot be expected to stand in the way of local bodies or other educational agencies putting their own house in order if they desire to do so.

"So cases of amalgamation and concentration which have so far 12
been brought into effect have not been the result of any orders of the noon
Government but have been due to voluntary efforts of the local bodies or of other educational agencies. I am glad to say, Sir, that this is the line of development which the late Mr. Champion himself envisaged in his proposals for giving effect to the scheme. He did not want his scheme to be enforced at the point of the bayonet. He considered it to be the duty of the Government to help the formation of active public opinion in favour of his scheme, to help those who were prepared

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to amalgamate the schools with suggestions in that behalf and to otherwise help in the direction of amalgamation and concentration. He was very reluctant to undertake the enforcement of any schemes either by himself or through any orders of Government and when he was here he was very very anxious that the scheme should be carefully examined so as not to offend any managements who were not willing to accept the scheme. I hope the hon. Member, Mr. Hameed Khan, will acquit me of the charge that I was not keeping up the word I gave on the floor of this House. Well, Sir, as I said, the local bodies and other educational institutions have been, without any pressure, introducing schemes of amalgamation and concentration. I shall now place before you, Sir, certain figures which bear conclusive testimony that we are steadily and peacefully proceeding with the work of concentration and consolidation. In the year 1930–31 there were on the whole 50,121 elementary schools in this Presidency with a total strength of 2,295,256 pupils distributed in these schools. During the years that have elapsed the number of schools has year after year gone down and the number in 1934–35 is 43,787 as against 50,121 in the year 1930–31. But it is most gratifying to see that the strength does not show any decrease, but on the other hand has shown a considerable increase. The strength in the year 1934–35 is 2,417,410 as against 22 lakhs and odd which I mentioned was the strength in the year 1930–31. I submit therefore that these figures are most clear indications that the Champion Scheme is being implemented unconsciously and without any violent efforts either on the part of the Government or anybody else. This, I submit, Sir, is the best method in which the scheme could be brought into effect. I do not mean to say that at no stage will it be necessary for the Government to take up the enforcemen of the proposals of concentration and consolidation. (A voice: 'Whe Government want it?') But if the present progress in this direction i maintained and if, as we expect, public opinion in its favour increase steadily the work which the Government will have to undertake wi become quite easy. While on this subject, Sir, I may perhaps be pe mitted to mention one matter. The speeches of one or two hon. Mer bers led me to think that they are labouring under the misapprehe sion that Madras is the lame duck amongst the provinces in India a the other provinces are ahead in education and we lag behind. If a hon. Member has any such impression I must disabuse him of t erroneous impression altogether. (A voice: 'Behind other countries I do not mean to say Madras Presidency is the first in the world. is enough if we are in a position to say we are the first in this count So far as literacy in male population is concerned the percentage literacy in our Presidency is higher than that of any other Presiden In Madras the percentage is 16·1, in Bengal it is 15·5, in Bomba is 15, in United Provinces 8, in the Punjab 8·5, in Bihar and Or 8·4, Central Provinces 10·2 and Assam 13. (A voice: 'What ab Travancore.') It is not within British India. With regard to liter amongst females also we are not lagging behind; Bengal and Bom --- --- much the same as our Presidency. The percentage is

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in our Presidency; 2·63 and 2·7 in Bombay and Bengal respectively. The other provinces, 9 in Bihar and Orissa and 1·8 in Assam. I do not mean provinces are hopelessly behind our Presidency—1·9 in the United Provinces, 0·9 in Bihar and Orissa and 1·8 in Assam. I do not mean to say and I hope hon. Members will not mistake me to say that all that has to be done has been done in education and it is time to go to sleep. There is a great deal to be done yet. But if hon. Members in their desire to criticize do want to make out that we are amongst the worst provinces in British India, I must take exception.

"Well, Sir, the next point to which I will allude is with reference to the grants to private aided elementary schools. There has been no doubt a persistent demand both in this hon. House and outside it for an increase in the grants which are being paid to private aided elementary schools. I must mention, however, that the payment which Government make is only a grant in aid. It is not intended to cover the whole cost of the manager in running the school. But I am prepared to say that the Government do recognize that private managements are the most suitable agencies for the spread of elementary education and deserve to be encouraged to the fullest possible extent. Well, Sir, finance, however, is a matter of such paramount consideration that we have, in spite of our best intentions, not been able to give more than we did for the last few years. I must also mention another matter which will perhaps explain to the hon. Members of the House why it has been necessary for the district educational councils to make such large cuts in the assessed grants. Though I do not, like my hon. Friend, Mr. Daniel Thomas, and some others, read into the rules any promise either express or implied on the part of the Government to pay the full amount of the assessed grants I do however admit that managements are entitled to regard the assessed grant as a payment normally due to them. But I would ask hon. Members to remember how the assessed grant has in recent years increased to an alarming extent. In 1930–31 the amount was 46 lakhs and during the last year the amount rose to 61 lakhs, the increase has been by 15 lakhs. Hon. Members would certainly agree with me when I say that under the present financial conditions of the province it is not possible to find such a large amount as 15 lakhs to make up the deficit. But I can assure the hon. Members of the House that the Government have got the fullest sympathy with regard to this demand by the managers of private aided schools and have been and are prepared to do their best to aid them financially. The provision in the current year's budget for payment to these private aided schools was about 51 lakhs, an amount which is in slight excess of the provision last year. Though the amount was about the same it was found that with this amount it would be necessary for the district educational councils to impose a larger cut this year than they had to do in the previous year. Realizing what great hardship would be caused to these managers by the imposition of such a large cut, the Government have, in spite of their own financial embarrassment, come forward to increase the provision in the budget under this head by about 3·2 lakhs. We have to be very thankful to the Hon. the Finance Member for his having

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found the money required for this extra provision and during the next year a still larger provision has been made than this year, the amount provided being nearly 55 lakhs. If in the course of the year it is found that the amount is grossly inadequate steps might be taken to increase the amount if funds are available as we have done during the current year. The system under which grants are assessed at present is to a great extent responsible for this automatic increase in the demands from these managers and the increase in the cuts that have therefore been caused. The whole system under which these grants are now being made is under the examination of a committee which has been constituted to consider certain important aspects connected with elementary education and I hope as the result of their labours we will get a scheme which will produce more satisfactory results than the present scheme does. The present scheme takes into account only the number and the qualifications of the teachers employed, no matter what the number of pupils under instruction are. But of course we do all welcome the replacement of untrained by trained teachers and the increase in the number of teachers when the educational requirements of schools do require it. But the improvement in the qualifications or in the number of teachers does produce an increase in the amount of the assessed grants.

-15 m. "Well, Sir, Mr. Sreshta, who has been ceaselessly fighting for increased grants for the private aided schools repeated his request on this occasion also, and in that connexion pleaded for a more liberal treatment to Mission institutions. Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt, while replying to the observations of Mr. Sreshta, was perfectly justified in saying that the views of Mr. Sreshta were not in agreement with his own or with the views of the other communities in his district. But I should take exception to the sweeping condemnation that he made against the *Mission institutions in that district*."

* Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt:—"On a point of personal expla nation, Sir. It is my opinion, Sir, and I am entitled to have it an express it. In reply to Mr. Sreshta's suggestion that district boar schools should be abolished in preference to missionary schools I sai that they should not be abolished, because I felt the other communiti in the district should not be thrown entirely at the mercy of schoo run by missionary agencies. After all, missionary schools are the intended only for Roman Catholic boys and girls. Just as Roma Catholic missionaries do not want that their boys and girls should to other schools like the district board and Government schools, it quite right that the other communities feel that they should not thrown entirely at the mercy of the missionary institutions in t matter of education of their children. Just because some of us ha been educated in missionary colleges or schools and have received so benefit we should not advocate the abolition of all other schools a seek to establish more missionary schools and give them the monop which Mr. Sreshta wants."

* The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar:—"I not think the position has in any way been altered. I have a disti

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recollection, and I am sure you, Sir, will bear me out when I say that the hon. Member took objection to Hindu pupils going into mission-managed schools for fear that they will be converted. Well, Sir, we would be most ungrateful if we do not acknowledge with thankfulness the most valuable contribution which mission agencies are making towards the spread of education in this country. ('Hear, hear.') I venture to suggest that the majority of the hon. Members of this House received their education in mission institutions at some stage or other of their education. (Interruption.) Well, Sir, how many of us, I do ask, have been converted to Christianity? My hon. Friend, Mr. Bhatt, enlightens me by saying that he owes his present position to the instructions he received in a Christian school. Is this the gratitude that he shows to his Alma Mater? Well, Sir, I am not going to dilate upon that matter. I hope such ungrateful references will be avoided by hon. Members of this House.

"I do not know if I shall have much time to deal with the detailed remarks of the hon. Members of this House. But I shall speak on one or two points of general importance. The depressed classes and the Muslims have been very legitimately asking for special treatment in the matter of their education in view of their backwardness. With regard to Muslims, hon. Members would remember that a committee consisting of many of the Muslim Members of this House was constituted some years ago, and they produced a valuable report. The Government made a most courageous departure from the policy which had been accepted by them for many years, in allowing religious instruction to be imparted to Muslim students. Well, Sir, hon. Members have complained that this recommendation has not been carried into effect. So far as Government schools are concerned, I may tell them that in all Muslim institutions under the management of the Government, religious instructors have already been appointed. If local bodies have not appointed such religious instructors, it is not up to them to blame me, and the Government by their orders cannot compel local bodies to introduce religious instruction or to employ religious instructors. But it has given to them the right which had till then been denied to local bodies of introducing religious instruction, if the local bodies agree to do so.

"Then again, Government do recognize that Mappillas, as distinguished from other Muslim communities, do require special treatment in view of their being even more backward than the rest of the Muslim community. The Government have acted on that principle. Last year, they opened in the Training School at Cannanore, a special section for Mappillas, and this year the Government are proposing to open a secondary school for Mappillas in Malabar. The scheme was put before the Finance Committee; the Finance Committee have accepted it, and it is awaiting the sanction of this hon. House.

"With regard to the employment of Muslims in educational institutions intended purely for Muslims, my hon. Friends know that the statutory rules have been amended so as to make this obligatory on the part of the Government. My hon. Friend, Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed,

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referred to the Hobart Training School where a Muslim headmistress has not yet been appointed. He and the other Muslim Members of this House know the history of that matter very well. The Government have been making their best efforts to appoint a Muslim lady as headmistress of the school. They were able to find only one qualified lady, but she was not able to come for the salary which the Government were prepared to pay. The Government have not given up the idea of appointing a Muslim lady as headmistress of the school. Technical difficulties which stood in the way of making such an appointment have now been removed by suitable amendments to the statutory rules, and there is nothing to prevent the Government from making the appointment if a suitably qualified candidate is available. Whatever the other communities might say with regard to me, I am sure the Members of the Muslim community will not charge me with indifference towards their educational needs.

"As regards depressed classes, my hon. Friend, Mr. Daniel Thomas, animadverted on the fact that the policy of the Government with regard to separate schools for depressed classes has now been changed. It is no doubt true that Government are not in favour of any separate schools either for the depressed classes or for Muslims unless it is absolutely necessary to establish a separate school. While the Government do not favour such separate schools, they have by other measures made it easy for the depressed class pupils to get admitted into the general schools. I may say that the latest report of the Director of Public Instruction discloses that in the general schools, that is, schools not intended specially for the depressed classes, the increase in the number of depressed class pupils during the last year over the figure of the previous year was 8 per cent. And I may also mention for the information of this hon. House certain recent Government Orders which have been passed with regard to the admission of depressed class pupils into general schools. It might at first sight seem a very drastic measure. But, however, in spite of the opposition which was raised against the enactment of such a rule, the Government had the courage to pass such a rule, and it has become final. I may also say, Sir, that this Government Order attracted the attention of even journals ir Northern India, and they have complimented this Government or courageously framing a rule like that, instead of exhibiting mere lij sympathy as many people who are interested in Harijan work are show ing at present. Of course hon. Members are aware that already ther is a rule that schools which do not admit depressed class pupils on th ground of their caste or community will not be paid the grants due t them. But this rule was easily evaded by a statement that no depresse class pupils were willing to come to the school. To get over the difficult this new rule has now been framed and it is to the following effect 'Recognition may be withdrawn from any school whether under publ or private management which refuses admission to any pupil mere on the ground of caste or community to which he belongs.'; what follo is the new clause: 'If no pupils belonging to the depressed clas are actually attending a school, it will be deemed to refuse admissi

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to such pupils within the meaning of this rule, unless the management of the school shows that no such pupils are residing within a distance of one mile of such school, or adduce other satisfactory reasons for the absence of such pupils in the school.' I think if this rule is properly enforced the percentage of depressed class pupils in the general schools is bound to increase still further, and we shall not have any further need for establishing separate schools for the depressed classes.

"Then, with regard to the admission to the training colleges; several Members have been speaking of the vicious circle involved in the rules of the Government with regard to this matter. I fail to see, Sir, how there is any vicious circle in this respect. Here again, I may say that the Government have been giving special treatment to the depressed class pupils. If I simply refer to certain relevant rules on this subject, hon. Members will perhaps realize that there is no such vicious circle as they think there is about this matter. Rule 114 of the Madras Educational Rules provides that at least 50 per cent of the students selected should have not less than one year's teaching experience. So, it is not necessary for either the head of the college or school or for the selection committee which helps the head of the school, to select only persons who have teaching experience, though the obligation is there to choose 50 per cent from those who have teaching experience. And pursuant to an undertaking which I gave on the floor of this House, we have issued in June 1934 instructions saying that candidates belonging to the Muslim community and the depressed classes, who possess the minimum educational qualifications prescribed, should not be rejected on the ground that they have no previous teaching experience.

"So, candidates belonging to the Muslim community and the depressed classes need not possess any teaching experience at all to qualify them for admission to these training schools and colleges. And we have also said that they should not be rejected on the ground that their qualifications are lower than those of applicants belonging to other communities. It was represented that Muslim and depressed class applicants, though they possess the minimum qualifications, may not have the high qualifications which candidates from the educationally advanced communities possess. For that purpose we have issued this instruction. And again in May 1935 we have instructed the District Educational Officers to admit not less than 75 per cent of the applicants belonging to depressed class and Muslim communities irrespective of whether or not they possess previous teaching experience. So, I think all possible safeguards to prevent hardship to Muslims and depressed classes have been already provided for, and, if in spite of these, there are any cases of hardship, and if they would bring them to the notice of Government, Government will be prepared to take action in the matter."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The Hon. Member has very much exceeded his time."

* The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"However much I may sympathise with the desire of the hon. Member from Malabar (Mr. K. P. Raman Menon) and some other hon. Members

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who want more accommodation and expansion of the work in Arts colleges, I am sorry, Sir, I cannot hold out to them much hope of Government yielding to their request. My hon. Friend, Mr. Narayanan Nambiyar, started by saying that His Excellency the Governor in a speech which he made to this House laid down the policy of the Government that elementary education should be the first charge on the resources of this province. He wound up his speech by an appeal to me that more funds should be allotted to colleges on the West Coast. I am afraid there is inconsistency between the two statements. It would not be consistent with the present policy of Government to expand the present commitments with regard to higher education. On the West Coast, my hon. Friend said, there are two colleges, the Palghat College and the Mangalore College. I am afraid there are more colleges; there are colleges in Alwaye, Ernakulam and Trichur.

"Mr. Basu Dev who started this debate complained that the provision for secondary schools was less than in the last year. It is no doubt so. The provision last year for grants to secondary schools was Rs. 9·31 lakhs; it has been reduced to Rs. 8·99 lakhs. But it is not the case that the grant to the secondary schools has in any manner been decreased. The difference is made up in this way. Two institutions which were receiving grants under this head till now, which were secondary colleges, have become first-grade colleges. So, the grants payable to them will, hereafter, come under the heading University Education. That amount is Rs. 6,700. And then grants to schools in the areas transferred to Orissa have to be stopped, and that comes to Rs. 39,200; and two institutions have been closed, and the grants payable to these are Rs. 2,400. Besides the schools already in existence, Sir, certain new schools have been provided for, in the current year's budget and the grants payable to them amount to Rs. 14,200. So, far from making any decrease in the grants for secondary schools, there has been an increased provision About Palni the hon. Member made some special mention. The matter is under the consideration of the Government. The threatened abolition was due to the fact that the municipal council's financial position was very unsatisfactory. Now as the result of some retrenchment which the council has agreed to make, it is possible to continue the institution and try it for another year; and the proposal is before the Government.

"Well, Sir, though I did not answer the many points which have been raised by hon. Members of the House I shall give them an assurance that all those points will receive my most careful consideration."

Mr. C. Basu Dev:—"I withdraw the motion, Sir."

The cut motion * was by leave withdrawn.

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XVIII—EDUCATION—RESERVED (EUROPEAN).

* The Hon. Sir Charles Souter:—"Mr. President, Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I move—

'that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 7,52,[illegible] under Demand XVIII—Education—Reserved (European)'.

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* [illegible]atement of Rs. 30,000 for Education—Transferred—Universi[illegible]

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* Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER :—" I beg to move the cut motion standing in my name, viz. :—

' *to reduce the allotment of Rs.* 7,52,600 *for Education—Reserved* (*European*) *by Rs.* 100.'

" Sir, in moving this cut motion I want to make only a few observations. From a perusal of the Report of the Director of Public Instruction, I find that the increase in the number of non-European pupils in the European schools is only 30 for the year 1934–35 whereas it was 199 for 1933–34. This shows that there is not sufficient and uniform encouragement for the non-European pupils to take to study in these schools. I should like to point out that it is essential that we must provide adequate facilities for these pupils to take to study in European schools. If a joint study of these two classes of pupils is encouraged there will be much scope for mutual understanding and in the end it will be much helpful in the matter of well being of these communities. So, I would urge that the study of non-European pupils in the European schools is encouraged as much as possible. The next point which I want to refer to, is that even in these schools we find there are a good number of untrained and uncertificated teachers. In the case of other elementary schools the policy which is being strictly enforced is that only trained teachers should be employed and that the schools where trained teachers are working should be given proper encouragement. But here I find that out of a total of 759 teachers, 577 are trained, 65 are untrained and certificated. I don't know to what class these teachers belong; they are said to be untrained and certificated. Perhaps certificate means certificate of general educational qualification. It is also stated that there are 117 untrained and uncertificated teachers. It is a sad state of affairs that even these schools which are expected to be up to date and efficient should have so many untrained teachers. I am at a loss to know why the policy of Government should be different in this respect. I would wish that the Government adopt a uniform policy and see that these schools are provided with well qualified trained teachers. Of course, they may say that these are all schools run by private agencies and the Government are only giving aid, but any way I will ask the hon. Member concerned to see whether this state of affairs cannot be improved.

" Then, Sir, in the Budget memorandum, with regard to the post which has been set apart in the interests of these schools, that is the lecturership in domestic economy, I find that during the fairly long absence of the individual who occupied the post, it has not been filled up, but allowed to remain vacant. This sort of attitude leads to the inference, Sir, that Government are interested in having that post not in the general interest of these schools, but only in the interest of a certain individual. Otherwise, it would have been the look-out of the Government to see that the post is filled up and the coaching with regard to this subject is continued uninterrupted. If such a post is

ept vacant for no tangible reasons it does not speak creditably of Government. So, I would add that at least, in future they should ee that such vacancies are filled up immediately and the tuitions caried on without any break.

"Then, I would refer to another point and that is with regard to he Lawrence Memorial School at Lovedale. Towards the upkeep of his school we contribute a grant of Rs. 32,000. So far as my information goes, it is a school intended only for Europeans, and Indians are not admitted there. Even granting that it is a school purely for the sons and daughters of the military people and the rules are that only children of those who are in active military service should be taken up there, I fail to see, Sir, why Government should not demand and obtain that right to the sons and daughters of the Indians in the military service. For this I am not definite about the information, and I speak subject to correction. If the Indian pupils are not admitted I would request the Government to see that they also get the admission, and are placed on equal terms with the European community. In this connexion I am reminded of the Government Order which the Hon. the Minister for Education has read just a while ago during the previous Demand with regard to the admission of Adi-Dravidas. I can very well understand any Government seeing that all the communities should be allowed to study in schools to which they contribute. But I wish that the same principle should be applied here also, and other communities should have equal chances for study in this school which is receiving Government aid. So, to be consistent in their policy, I would urge on the Government to see that pupils of other communities are also given chances to study in these schools, of course in conformity with the rules and regulations which they can formulate for the better running of such eminent institutions. With these words I move the cut motion."

5 Rao Bahadur P. C. MUTHU CHETTIYAR :—" பிரசிடெண்டு, ஸார்.
1. ஐரோப்பிய எஜுகேஷனுக்கு ரூ. 7,52,000 கேட்டிருக்கிறது. 1934-35 வருஷத்தில் ரூ. 6,83,000 பார்க்கிலும் சொற்ப வித்தியாசம்தான.

" இந்தியாவில் அந்த விஷயத்தில் இன்னும் அதிக குழந்தைகள் வாசிக்கும்படி செய்வதும் அதுவிஷயமாக அதிகமான பணச்செலவு செய்யவேணுமென்பதும் பொருத்தமானது.

" ஆனால் இந்தியர் எலிமெண்டரி எஜுகேஷனுக்கு 1934-35க்கு 85,00,000, 1935-36க்கு சுமார் 2½ கோடி போட்டிருக்கிறது. எலிமெண்டரி நபர் 1க்கு 1½ ரூபாய் வீதம் சுமார் ஆகலாம். ஆனால் தாலூகா போர்டு அபாலிஷனிலிருந்து எஜுகேஷனை பற்றிய ஆளுகையானது குறைந்துபோய்விட்டது. அதை பற்றி சொல்வது பயனில்லையாயினும் மினிஸ்டரவர்கள் யாவையும் அறியக்கூடியவர்கள்.

" பெரும்பாலோர் சாம்பியன் ஸ்கீமை ஒத்துகொள்ளவில்லை. ஸ்திரி புருஷாள் டீச்சர்களும் ஸ்கூல்களும் தனியாய் இருக்கவேண்டும்.

" நவீன Vocationகளை கவனிக்கப்படவில்லை. ஏழை குழைந்தைகளுக்கு உதவி கவனிக்கப்படவில்லை. இன்னும் பல விஷயங்கள் இருக்கின்றன. ஏழை குழந்தைகளுக்கு துணி கொஞ்சம் ஆகாரம் வைத்தியம் இவைகளை கொடுக்கவேணும்.

" பலவிஷயமிருப்பினும் ரொம்ப முக்கியமான ஒன்றை சொல்லுகிறேன்.

" திருப்பரங்குன்றம் 5 மைலுக்கு சமீபமாயுள்ளது மதுரைக்கு சமீப முக்கிய [illegible] யாவரும் வசிக்ககூடிய இடம். பில்கிரிம் சென்டர்

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அதில் நான் தாலூகா போர்டு பிரசிடெண்டாயிருக்கும்போது டைரக்டர் ஆப் பப்ளிக் இன்ஸ்டிரக்ஷன் ஆயிருந்த (Grieve) கிரீவ் துரையவர்களால் நமக்கு அபிமானித்து இந்த இடத்தில் லைப்ரேரி ஒன்று திறந்து அதற்கு பர்னிசர் முதலாகிய ரொம்ப அழகாயுள்ளதுகளாய் சேகரித்தும் அது ராஜாக்கள் மினிஸ்டர்கள் பல கவர்னர்கள் விஜயம் செய்து இன்ஸ்பெக்ட் செய்துமிருக்கிறார்கள். அவைகளில் விருத்திக்கு வரவேண்டிய நிலைமையில் ரொம்ப உதவி செய்வதாயும் வாக்கு கொடுத்திருந்தார். அப்பேர்ப்பட்ட உயர்ந்த லைப்ரேரியை எங்கிருக்கென்று தேடுவதற்குகூட எண்ணாது பர்னிசர்களை எல்லாம் எடுத்து வந்துவிட்டார்கள். இந்த கடுமையான காரியத்தை பார்க்கிலும் டிஸ்திரிக்கட்டு போர்டு ஆளுகை திறமை என்ன சொல்லவேண்டியிருக்கிறது. ரொம்ப நல்ல உயர்ந்த லைபரரி அதை கவனியாது இருந்ததைப்பற்றி தி ஹானரபிள் 3rd மினிஸ்டரவர்கள் உத்திரவு பண்ணி கேட்பார்களா?"

The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The hon. Member must know that question could not be dealt with under this Demand.

Rao Bahadur P. C. MUTHU CHETTIYAR:—"இந்த இந்தியர்களுடைய ஸ்கூல் திறமை இப்படி இருக்கும்போது ஐரோப்பியர்களுடைய நல்ல மானேஜ்மெண்டிலும் நல்ல இங்கிலாந்தில் இருக்கிற இன்ஸ்டிட்யூஷன்களில் நடத்துகிற பழைய நல்ல விருத்தாந்தங்களை சொல்லி கொடுக்கக்கூடிய திறமை வாய்ந்த டீச்சர்களுடனும் மேல்நாட்டு பழக்க வழக்கங்களோடு கூடி ஐரோப்பிய குழந்தைகளுடன் ஒன்றுக்கு 4 மடங்கு செலவானாலும் அதில் சேர்ந்து வாசிக்கவேணுமென்று கருதுகிறவர்களின் குழந்தைகளை சேர்க்கப்படாதா! நீலகிரியில் இருக்கிற ஐரோப்பிய மிலிடரி ஸ்கூலிலும் அவர்களை சேர்க்கக்கூடாதா. இங்கிலீஷ் கிளப் முதலிய பல இடங்களில் இந்தியர்களும் சேர்ந்து இருக்கவில்லையா. இங்கிலாந்தில் பள்ளிக்கூடங்களில் இந்தியர்கள் சேர்ந்து வாசிக்கவில்லையா? விரும்புவோர்களுக்கு இடம் தருவது அநேக பாவமும் நல்ல பழக்க வழக்கமும் ஒற்றுமையும் அதிகமாக யிருக்குமல்லவா. இந்த விஷயத்தில் ஏதாவது ஒரு காரணம் பொருத்தம் சொல்லாது ஆனரபிள் மெம்பரவர்கள் ஒத்துக்கொள்வார்களென்று நினைக்கிறேன்."

* Rao Sahib V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"Mr. President, while I rise to support the Demand, I would like to bring to the notice of the Government that the Breek Memorial European School in the Nilgiris, has been in existence for 35 years and was all along admitting to it Indian children to the tune of 10 per cent. But, after the establishment of the Ootacamund Municipal High school, that facility was withdrawn. Recently the Government issued a Government Order constituting a committee for the management of this school. Going through the personnel of the committee, I do not find any Indian on it. I am glad that the school appoints Indians as teachers. An institution of this nature in the sanatorium of this Presidency is essential. But taking into account the fact that this institution is managed by the Government, I hope some representation would be found for Indians on the Board of Management.

"My hon. Friend, Mr. Nachiappa Gounder was talking about the Lawrence Memorial School. That school is placed on a different basis from the other European schools. Of course it is on the gift of the late Col. Lawrence that the school got its original properties and it is intended for the children of European descent. As far as I know, there has been no demand from my district or the districts adjoining it that Indians should be admitted into it. I know also that some of the children of the Indian officials are given facilities for education there. It is not therefore quite right to compare it with the other

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European schools. I therefore only repeat my request to the Hon. Member to give some representation to Indians on the Board of Management of the Breek Memorial School."

* Mr. W. K. M. LANGLEY:—"Mr. President, Sir, I hardly think it necessary to make a long speech on this occasion in connexion with this cut motion, because a very different cry from that which was sometimes heard, was heard to-day. I was glad to observe that there is no suggestion now that this European education is an undesirable thing in itself and ought to be swept away. That suggestion was disposed of and swept away in the debates in this House under this Demand in 1932. Since then, I think, everybody is more or less agreed that this form of education is an excellent thing in itself, that it is not strictly education reserved for Europeans but that it is an English type of education which many of us, in fact most of us in this House and in the country, would be very glad to see largely extended in this country and in this Presidency. And it struck me hearing the very moderate speech which my hon. Friend the Member from Salem made in introducing this cut motion, that it was his particular desire that if possible this type of education should be greatly increased and more facilities given for Indian pupils to join in such schools and get the benefit of that particular type of education which develops not only the intellect, but also let us hope, the character. Therefore, to that extent, I am able to support my hon. Friend the Member from Salem, that this is an excellent thing in itself and we on these benches would be only too glad if the benefit of this education could be made much more available tc Indians than it is already. But when one looks at the figures, it seem to me, that, considering the almost niggardly attitude of Governmen (admittedly forced on them by circumstances) it is very difficult fo them to do more in the way of encouraging Indian pupils than the are doing already. I will explain myself by taking two typical year for convenience's sake. Take the year 1930–31 and then compare th figures for that year with those for the year 1934–35 the latest yea for which official figures are available. Now, whereas the total amour spent on this English education in the first period year was 26 lakh four years later, i.e., in 1934–35, only just under Rs. 24 lakhs we spent on this type of education.

1 p.m. "Therefore, it is extremely difficult to see how, unless the Gover ment is more generous than it is at present, these advantages, whi my hon. Friend desires to be extended, can be extended. But neverth less, notwithstanding the small amount available to these institutio I should just like to draw the attention of this House to this fac although, as I said, a lesser amount has been spent in the second peric year for this form of education, there was an increase in 1934, as co pared with 1930, in the number of Indian pupils. They increased fr 1,564 to 1,984; and the percentage of Indian pupils, which in the fi year was only 14 per cent was in the second period-year no less tl 17½ per cent. At the same time the European and Anglo-Indian pu had a small increase from 9,270 to 9,326; but proportionately the incre

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in that class of boys is very considerably less than in the case of the Indian pupils. So it seems to me that the only thing that stands in the way of achieving the desire expressed by my hon. Friend from Salem is the absence of larger contributions by the Government. I should like to make it clear that they must come from Government; these schools were originally intended for domiciled Europeans and Anglo-Indians; and while the Government last year subscribed from public funds 28 per cent of the total cost of such schools, and while the fees collected from the pupils of the schools amounted to 27 per cent, something like over 40 per cent was met from outside sources. This means, from endowments and from contributions made by those definitely interested, not only in this country but also in England, in advancing this type of education in this country. Obviously, such endowments and such gifts are definitely intended principally to assist certain classes of pupils, viz., the Europeans domiciled in this country and the Anglo-Indians. And I hope it is not the wish of this House that the endowments or gifts which are intended for a certain type of pupil should be diverted to those for which they were not intended. And it seems to me that unless the Government are able to increase their contributions, there is very little hope of bringing about the result, which my hon. Friend wishes to bring about by moving this cut motion.

"The only other point which I wish to make is with reference to the teachers. The hon. Member from Salem complained that there is an increasing number of teachers, both untrained and uncertificated. As far as this is concerned, it would seem that the results do not justify any fear that these schools are suffering from a lack of the prescribed qualifications in the teachers. In the two years I have mentioned, there were 82 such schools during the first year, and 80 such schools during the second. As far as the teachers are concerned, there were 752 teachers in the first period-year and 759 teachers in the second period-year. As regards examination results, in the first year in question those who entered for high school examination were 156, of whom 85 were successful. In the second-year, out of 230 candidates who entered for the high school examination, 148 were successful. In the middle school examination, in the first-year, out of 260 candidates 119 were successful, and in the second-year, out of 363 candidates 265 were successful. It seems to me that my hon. Friend from Salem has perhaps been casting a possibly unintended aspersion on these teachers. When one sees the results . . ."

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—"On a matter of personal explanation, Sir, I did not cast any aspersion on anybody. Taking the policy of the Government, I said that the teachers employed in these schools must be trained teachers."

* Mr. W. K. M. LANGLEY:—"I quite agree with my hon. Friend. I was coming to that. I am sure he is the last person to wish to cast any aspersion on anybody. I quite agree that, other things being equal, you should certainly employ highly-trained men, but at the same time we have to consider what these schools stand for. It was all fully explained in the debate on budget grants that took place in this House

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in the year 1932, and I think it was my hon. Friend, Mr. K. P. Raman Menon, who, taking part in a debate the year before last, said that for the development of character and intellect among boys a certain type of teacher is required; for this—I hope the House will agree with me—the teachers belonging to the Jesuit Mission are among the best-fitted, whose aim is to carry on the tradition and intentions of this form of education. While I agree that Indian teachers are fully qualified to meet adequately what is desired in the way of intellectual development of the boys, what is wanted here is a different class of work. I would call it a public school education. And while I agree that these schools must have the best qualified men as teachers, at the same time I do not agree that highly qualified men of education or men with the highest certificates are necessarily the best teachers for students. People like myself, who had the advantage (or otherwise) of being educated in England, know perfectly well that the most successful teacher, the under-master, who has the greatest possible influence over the boys of the school is very often the least qualified, and possibly has no substantial academic qualifications at all. And it is not necessarily owning a certificate or passing an examination that will produce the best man for the purpose for which these schools are intended. I do not think there is anything more that I could add. This debate has been on such a moderate level that I feel that in due course the resolution to supply the necessary funds will commend itself to the good judgment of the House.'

* The Hon. Sir CHARLES SOUTER:—" Mr. President, Sir, I coul only wish that Mr. Langley's speech was my reply; at any rate it seem to me that it is an adequate reply to a good many of the criticism which have been advanced by hon. Members. I am gratified, I mus say, that these criticisms have been so few and have been set forth i studied and moderate language. I am particularly gratified in that can see no trace of any remarks which have been made of any desi to discriminate as between a European and an Indian.

" The general criticism of Mr. Nachiyappa Gounder was, I thin that Indians were not more freely admitted into these European schoo Well, Sir, I think we may take European schools as roughly of t classes, those which are intended for certain purpose and those whi are not. In the former category we might place as the first and forem the Lawrence Memorial School at Ootacamund, which was specifica referred to by various Members. This school and other schools of similar kind in India were started out of a fund endowed by Sir He Lawrence. He left a considerable sum of money for the starting these schools and by his will and under the terms of that will he desi that admission to these schools should be restricted to the sons soldiers. There are too many lawyers in this House to make it ne sary for me to say that the terms of that will must legally be follo as closely as possible and that it must be recognized, that there is so thing sacrosanct about the legacy which has been left for a spe purpose and that purpose must not be lightly turned aside. I th therefore, that so far as the Lawrence Memorial School goes and those other schools which have been started under similar conditi ... interfered with."

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Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER :—" What about our grants? "

* The Hon. Sir CHARLES SOUTER :—" Grants the Government are certainly making, but I think they are following the terms on which such schools were originally intended to be run. If we should depart from that we should be departing from the benefits which the original donor intended should accrue to such schools. I might just as well argue why the Government should give special grants to Muhammadan schools. It follows exactly the same way, and I can see no reason why in cases of particular schools like that Government should not give grants. As regards the other schools the rules are, as we know, that up to $33\frac{1}{3}$ per cent of the total strength of these schools may be Indians. Mr. Langley has pointed out that even though $33\frac{1}{3}$ per cent was allowed for the admission of Indians, the Indians did not take advantage of that except to the extent of 17 per cent. I do not think that merely saying that the percentage shall be increased by 50 per cent is going to make much difference, in so far as Indians have not taken advantage of the chances of admission that now exist. It was also pointed out generally that after all these schools had to cater for a particular kind of education. And it is an education which the boys themselves are particularly keen about and we must, whatever we do, be certain of it that by any steps that we take we do not in any way change that education. I certainly think that in some cases it would do the average Indian boy a considerable amount of good if he were subjected to the discipline and character-forming which, as everyone seems to admit, does take place in those schools. But as I said before, merely to increase the proportion of Indians who can be admitted to these schools is not going to be of much advantage, at any rate in the near future so far as I can see. Until we find that Indian boys really are availing themselves of the opportunities which they have now of coming up to the full strength of $33\frac{1}{3}$ per cent of the admissions, it seems to be that it is premature at any rate to urge for larger admissions at present."

Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO :—" Am I to understand that all the Indian students who seek admission are admitted as a matter of course? "

* The Hon. Sir CHARLES SOUTER :—" In no institution are all those that seek admission necessarily admitted. There are pupils and pupils and surely the manager or the correspondent of a school must have some discretion to say as to who will be admitted. I do not think that affects the position.

" There are one or two matters which have been referred to in the course of the debate. But before I go to them I should like to refer to what Mr. Muthu Chettiyar said. He laid down a proposition, with which I thoroughly agree, that Europeans and Indians should be more familiar. By all means. But I do not think that fact interferes with what I consider to be the basic principle of this, namely, that you have a certain number of schools which cater for a particular interest and on particular lines and our policy must not be by any means to

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make those lines different from what the original intention was. By all means be more familiar than we are now, but all the same it does not seem that we should interfere with a well-accepted and well-known system of education.

" Then a remark was made about the teacher of domestic economy. This, I assure Mr. Nachiappa Gounder, was purely fortuitous, because the lady who holds that post went on sick leave and at the end of her leave applied to the High Commissioner for India for extension of leave and it was quite unforeseen by us that she would be absent so long. Our latest information is that she will be returning to India before the next school term begins so that there will be no further trouble about the matter.

" Sir, I think that covers practically the whole ground of the debate and I trust that the hon. Members who moved these cut motions, after what I have said, will consider the advisability of not proceeding with them."

The cut motion was by leave withdrawn.

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XIX—MEDICAL—RESERVED AND TRANSFERRED.

* The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" Mr. President, Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor I beg to move—

> ' *that Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs.* 87,11,30[illegible] *under Demand XIX—Medical—Reserved and Transferred* '."

* Mr. G. R. PREMAYYA:—" Mr. President, Sir, I move the motio that stands in my name, viz.—

> ' *to reduce the allotment of Rs.* 12,000 *for Medical Establishmen —Superintendence—Pay of Officers, by Rs.* 100.'

My object is to criticise the medical policy of Government.

" Sir, many people would not take part in the debate on the demai for European Education and even with regard to the demand for po and pilotage many keep quiet. But on this demand I think all hc Members in this House will be very much interested, because it affe all—the poor and the rich and the old and the young. Sir, this ye this department has started a very good scheme, the visited dispens system. This system was introduced in Anantapur, South Arcot, Gu tur, Malabar, Nilgiris, Tinnevelly and the Vizagapatam Agency. T is a system by which the doctors who would be able to steal some ti in the course of their week, say two or three hours a day, were allo to go out of their jurisdiction and attend to the needs of the pe elsewhere. The districts which I have just now mentioned recei a great help by this system, but I am sorry to find that in other distr this system of medical relief has not been successful in spite of attempts made to work it. I thought that if I appreciated this [illegible] [illegible] other hon. Members coming from the other districts

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would see the benefit of it and try to introduce it in their districts also and tell their people to be ready to receive the help afforded by this system. Sir, some time back this department took the burden of running the taluk headquarter hospitals. The Government have sent well-qualified doctors to run these hospitals and therefore very good work has been turned out in these hospitals. I have visited several of these hospitals and I have myself seen the work that is done there. I have stayed there for 2 or 3 hours and I have seen the difference. Three or four years ago these hospitals which I visited had not as many patients going to them as at present. Since well-qualified doctors are put in charge of these hospitals they naturally attract a large number of patients. But there is one difficulty now. The buildings have not been extended and no addition has been made to the number of beds. The result is that a large number of patients who go there to get treatment at the hands of these well-qualified doctors are not attended to fully and are sent out for want of beds. After these hospitals were taken over by Government, there came a period of financial stringency with the result that Government had no money to spend on the buildings for these hospitals. Sir, even though patients could not be taken as in-patients and had to be treated as out-patients, the number of compounders was not increased; the same number still continues. I have seen myself in some places that the compounders are made to work till 12 o'clock and 1 o'clock in the afternoon. Many complaints have been made and they have asked us to request the Hon. Minister to appoint more compounders. I know, Sir, for certain that it is a great necessity to have more compounders for these taluk headquarter hospitals, which have made good progress.

"Some time ago, Sir, the native doctors were asked to undergo a special course and get themselves enlisted so that they may not practise the Indian systems of medicine without a degree or a diploma or any other suitable qualification. On account of that the number of native doctors is limited, the allopathic L.M.Ps. are going to these villages and treating the patients there. That is one aspect of the question, Sir. There is another difficulty even there. Although you have prevented native doctors from practising Indian systems of medicine without special training, you have not given any help to the native midwives to get themselves trained. Sir, many women in the villages cannot afford to go to the taluk headquarter hospital for the aid of trained midwives. The women who give birth to children stay in the villages and get only the help of the untrained midwives. The untrained midwife has experience but not had training in any of our hospitals. They may be barber women or women of any other caste. The fact is that they have no training and on account of their ignorance and want of training, in many cases, the women on whom they attend give birth to still-born children and sometimes the mother also dies. That is the difficulty, Sir. I request the Hon. Minister not to allow these women to attend on such cases and to ask them though they may be illiterate to go to the taluk headquarter hospitals and get some training. When they are allowed to handle cases without any training,

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I have seen that the result is that many women give birth to still-born children. Especially in panchayat areas, where I suppose the Hon. Minister can have some control, this is possible. If he issues a Government Order to the effect that panchayat boards should engage trained midwives the problem will be solved to a great extent."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—" The hon. Member may continue his speech after lunch. The House will now adjourn and reassemble at 2-30 p.m."

After lunch — (2-30 p.m.).

The House reassembled with the Deputy President (Diwan Bahadur C. Natesa Mudaliyar) in the Chair.

* Mr. G. R. PREMAYYA:—" Mr. Deputy President, Sir, I was saying that if the Government give training in midwifery to the uneducated midwives in the villages, they may be employed as midwives in the villages.

" I now pass on to the aid afforded to malarial places. Malaria has become epidemic in some up-lands of our Presidency. In the places very near the sea all along the coast from Madras to Calcutta, malaria has been spreading gradually from year to year. I request the Hon. Minister to educate these people so that they may know how to protect themselves from getting malarial fever. They may publish bulletins and arrange for magic lantern shows. If the people are enlightened, if they are educated to be free from this disease, I think it will go a long way to help the people. Generally speaking, in the deltaic areas about three to four months after the transplantation of paddy, people will get malarial fever. Every year it is so. I have personal knowledge of it. At that time medical people who are living in the cities and towns would not go to the villages. If the people are educated how to get themselves rid of this fever or if the Government could make some provision for doctors to go and visit the villages, I think it will be of great help to the villagers who are living outside the cities and towns

" Then. Sir, there are several diseases that can be checked, fo instance, leprosy. Leprosy is one of the diseases that can be checked though it cannot be completely cured. Much work has been done i this direction. Recently the Government appointed a Chief Lepros Officer and he has been engaged in this work which has been appr ciated by many people in the mufassal. Anti-leprosy activities ha increased greatly and thereby several lepers have been segregate They are not allowed to roam about; by so doing this disease is confin only to those who have been already affected. I beg of the Ho Minister to give more help to philanthropic bodies, especially missi nary institutions who are taking steps to keep the disease und control. As our country is hot being situated in the torrid zone, tl disease is prevalent. Many lepers roam about in the streets and ask bukshis; we see many of them in the city and in the mufassal al They should be segregated. Several families keep their leper relati in their own homes. If they are advised not to keep them in th

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houses, they do not take the advice. If the Government make it a rule that lepers should be segregated and should be asked to stay in leper asylums and not allowed to stay in their own houses, our country will be free from leprosy. But sufficient funds are not forthcoming to establish more leper asylums. The Government have begun starting leper asylums. They are not enough. More funds must be allotted for this work so that in the course of 25 or 50 years, the disease can be stamped out. As a Chief Leprosy Officer has been entertained by the Government, there has been an increase of anti-leprosy activities. I know the good work done by this officer. Local bodies also are taking lot of interest in this matter and they are expending funds from the Government for having anti-leprosy clinics in their hospitals also. The Government have opened leper clinics in all the Government hospitals in the Presidency. That is exceedingly good work. If this work is continued for several years to come. I am sure that leprosy will be stamped out of the country.

"As regards the tuberculosis disease, I have got a lot to say but time may not allow me to do so. Tuberculosis is a bad disease which attacks especially young people. I had been to Madanapalli once or twice and several times to Rajahmundry and have seen how the Missions in these two places have been working. The majority of the inmates of these institutions are students, young men between the ages of 10 and 25. The man-power of India will be reduced if this disease is allowed to spread among young people. I had talks with several of these inmates. The majority of them are well educated young men. If the Government cannot establish more tuberculosis asylums for young men and young women, for want of funds, the Government will be well-advised to help philanthropic bodies who undertake to do this kind of work.

"Then, Sir, there is an institution in Coonoor to which those who were bitten by rabid dogs used to be sent. Such people, when certified by the village munsifs, were taken charge of by the Tahsildar and sent to Coonoor. But now, every headquarter hospital gets the vaccine, and so, these people are treated in the headquarter hospitals. I want the Hon. Minister to investigate whether there is any truth in the statement that there is a certain rasam or juice of a plant, with which the villagers are curing such persons. I have seen several people bitten by rabid dogs, being cured by this rasam, and even women administer this medicine. I even make bold to say that the number of people cured by this juice is more than the number cured in Coonoor or in the headquarter hospitals. When this Indian indigenous medicine is available in our province, why should people be sent to Coonoor, at the cost, either partly or wholly, of the Government? I want the Hon. Minister to investigate into this matter. We belong to a country whose people believe in ahimsa. So, if a man is bitten by a rabid dog, the dog is allowed to go away. The man, when he goes to the village munsif for the certificate, is told: 'Oh, without seeing the dog, I cannot certify.' It is very difficult to get a certificate, because, unless he sees the dog, he cannot say whether it is a

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rabid dog or not. I therefore request the Hon. Minister to see that all the stray dogs in the province are killed. Which is more precious, I ask, man's life or dog's life? Of course, there must be differences of opinion on this subject, but I am not prepared to discuss it now. It is my opinion that human life is much more precious. These dogs are mostly found in market places and one can see a lot of wounds on their bodies. Such dogs may at any time turn out to be rabid dogs and bite people. I therefore request the Hon. Minister in charge to bestow some attention on this matter.

"Then, Sir, there is a general complaint that whenever any doctor in a place does any mischief and he is reported on, the Minister or the Surgeon-General or any other officer of the department who investigates the case, simply comes to the conclusion that there is nothing wrong. I may, in this connexion, mention the case of a gentleman. This gentleman was once in Cumbum. I am glad my hon. Friend, Mr. Sesha Reddi, the President of Kurnool District Board is here. He never used to touch a Harijan, nor even a chit held by a Harijan, There was a strong row about it. I went to the hospital in disguise and joined other Harijan fellows. I went to this doctor and asked for some medicine. He said: 'Who are you?' I told him 'I am so and so.' He said: 'All right, go and stand there, in that place set apart for Harijans.' I went there. This is what happened. I reported the matter to Hon. Minister—it was Mr. Muthiah Mudaliyar at that time—and to the District Board President, Mr. B. P. Sesha Reddi. He came and took prompt action, investigated the case and reported it to the Surgeon-General. Finally, that particular gentleman was transferred to the Agency. There also it seems he picked up a quarrel with somebody, and as a result of it he was transferred to Divi and then again to Gannavaram, Kistna district. There also he had a quarrel with somebody, and I had myself to interfere in that case. Sir, I think about 500 petitions were sent against this gentleman, and I saw the Surgeon-General personally. He said: 'All right, I will give my sympathetic consideration to it.' After enquiry was made he was sent to the Agency. And now applying for leave he now stays in Gannavaram. He now twists his moustache and says 'I will see who will send me to that place.' When the enquiry was made, my friend, Mr. Moses, was there. But finally, the report was in favour of that gentleman. If anything is reported against an officer, generally the whole medical department says: 'No, he is perfectly all right.' About 500 petitions were sent, the enquiry was made in our presence, and yet everybody thinks there is nothing wrong with him. Sir, in these day of political advancement when all the Harijans are hugged anc embraced by the other people—and even kissed as my hon. friend Mr. Nambiyar, points out—this touch-me-not question is still there i several hospitals. It is really regrettable that I have to make a speec about it here.

"I shall now refer to one more question—corruption! We a now-a-days purchasing beds; that means we have to give bribes. If man wants a bed, he has to pay down Rs. 10 bribe. (The Hon. Diwa

Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar: 'In which hospital?') In any hospital. It is a sort of illegal tax that is collected. If the reporters here publish my speech correctly, I think that the District Medical Officers will be surprised to know that; I have got facts and figures to show that for each nurse, we are paying Rs. 75 for her training. This is also a bribe. If a woman is taken into a hospital for being trained as a nurse, she has to pay Rs. 75. I know the Hon. Minister has been in charge of this department only for six months now; but I am sure he will take steps to put down such corruption. This department is very beneficial to the people, and yet such things have been allowed to continue unchecked. Sir, we are poor people, oppressed and depressed and also compressed; we suffer more than the others. If we have to bribe for beds, for nurse-training, for midwife-training, and for everything else in this department, in these days of economic depression, where are we to get the money from? I wish that the Hon. Minister makes an enquiry into all these things and purge the department of such bad people, so that when I come to the Council next year—if that is possible—I may bless and sing the praises of this department, of which the Hon. Minister is the head.

"With these remarks, Sir, I move my cut motion."

* The DEPUTY PRESIDENT:—"This demand will be discussed only for two hours; and forty minutes have already elapsed. So, I request hon. Members to take as few minutes as possible."

* Khan Bahadur MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB Bahadur:—"Mr. Presi- 3 p.m.
dent, Sir, I wish to bring to the notice of the Government the inadequate medical relief given to gosha ladies. I am sorry to find that the relief afforded in medical institutions to ladies, including Muhammadan women, is very inadequate, that is to say, they do not get the benefit of the large amount of money spent on medical institutions. This can be remedied by giving greater and special facilities for educating lady students in medical institutions, and by starting more medical schools for ladies. For want of one such institution, ladies belonging to the West Coast have to go all the way to Madras, and this they find it difficult. We had some time back one such school for men at Calicut, but even that has been transferred to Coimbatore, I believe. So, the whole of the West Coast has been deprived of medical education especially for ladies. My request to Government is, first of all they should open a medical school for ladies somewhere on the West Coast so that without much difficulty the ladies of the four or five districts there may be enabled to get medical education.

"The next thing that Government should do in order to help the ladies in the matter of giving medical aid is to appoint a lady doctor in each central or taluk headquarter hospital. Coming to South Kanara, if there is any centre which requires greater facility for the treatment of ladies it is Kasaragod. There are lady doctors attached to the hospitals in places like Udipi, Puttur, etc., there is no lady doctor at Kasaragod at all where the number of women patients attending the hospital is greater than in other places. When this question went up

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to Government once, they said that the attendance at the Puthur hospital was very poor and that the lady doctor there could be transferred to Kasaragod. But nothing is done so far. Women generally observing gosha, do not like to be examined by men doctors. There are also several Hindu women observing gosha. Apart from that, women generally are reluctant to be examined by men doctors. Out of the total population of 180,000 Muhammadans in South Kanara, nearly a lakh are in the Kasaragod taluk and so Kasaragod very badly requires a lady doctor much more than any other place in South Kanara. In this connexion, I wish to point out, Sir, that we have got a hospital known as Lady Goschen Hospital for Women and Children in Mangalore, but there a male doctor has been appointed as honorary surgeon and to make matters worse, he has been put in charge of the maternity ward. Of course there are two lady doctors attached to the hospital; one of whom is an M.B.B.S. and has had twenty years experience; and the other is an L.M.P. with twenty-one or twenty-two years' experience; both of them are very competent persons. When I asked a question the other day about this, I was told that in the last two years, the honorary surgeon had performed 92 operations of a difficult nature which included three Cæsarian sections. I do not know what is meant by difficult operations, because all normal labour cases are conducted by midwives and nurses and it is only the difficult cases that are being attended to by these lady doctors; and when they say that as many as 92 difficult cases were attended to by this honorary surgeon, I do not think I can believe that statement. Moreover, Sir, in the special maternity ward attached to this hospital, it is only these two ladies that attend to all cases; and when they stated that he treated difficult cases, I think they must be labour complex which include Cæsarian sections, applications of forceps, etc. As a matter of fact, all these cases are conducted by these lady doctors. Did the honorary surgeon conduct any more difficult operations? Perhaps, it may be in difficult cases where they want more than two persons, they might have required the help of somebody else; and of course in such cases nobody would object to the calling in of a male doctor; but to put a male doctor in charge of the maternity ward is a thing which cannot be tolerated. When I wrote a letter to the Government about this, I got a reply stating that they have advertised for a lady doctor and that as soon as they get a suitable candidate, she would be placed in charge of it. I may here point out that a lady doctor from outside South Kanara would not go out of her place to do honorary work. They are not likely to get suitable lady candidates in South Kanara itself. Moreover, in their reply, it is stated that if people desire to observe purdah, they would make suitable arrangements for attendance by women medical officers. Where are they going to get women medical officers from and if these two lady doctors are not competent how will they supply the need? If the Government think that lady doctors are not as competent as men doctors to perform big operations, I can understand it, but they do not say so. In this case, these two lady doctors have performed all major operations. So, there is something beyond this and I want the Government to let us know about it. What the honorary surgeon

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performs, these lady doctors also perform and so, where is the necessity for a male element? Besides this, Sir, this gentleman has got his own private hospital and he simply comes for a few minutes to the hospital, goes round the wards and then returns home; there is an end of it. I want to know whether there is any necessity for an honorary surgeon and if at all there is any necessity, only a female honorary surgeon should be appointed. It is scandalous that gosha ladies should be compelled to be attended to by male doctors. For instance, in Madras gosha ladies go to the Gosha Hospital. The other ladies also go to other hospitals. I have no objection to their going to other hospitals, but you should not force those who object to their being attended to by male doctors and such ladies should not be made to go without any medical aid. Therefore, I request the Government to see that these gosha ladies are enabled to take advantage of our medical institutions. So far as the Mangalore hospital is concerned, I would request that if they cannot appoint a separate honorary lady doctor, they must at least remove the male doctor from the place for the present."

* Mr. A. B. Shetty:—"Mr. Deputy President, Sir, my hon Friend who moved this motion has drawn our attention to some of the medical requirements of this province. He spoke about malaria, leprosy, tuberculosis, hydrophobia and the increased efforts necessary to combat these diseases more successfully. I suppose he forgot to mention about venereal diseases. Sir, the incidence of venereal diseases is very high in this country; and it is prevalent among all classes of people, men, women and children. It is said that Madras is the second most venereally affected province in this country. It is true we have got a number of clinics in mufassal hospitals, a large clinic in our General Hospital and a new clinic is being or has been opened in the General Hospital but still the number of clinics available in this province is not sufficient to tackle this disease. I regret to find from the administration report that the number of subsidised rural dispensaries has become reduced from 506 in 1931 to 435 in 1934. I need hardly point out how very desirable it is to extend medical relief to rural areas and bring it within the reach of the poor people.

"Now, in order to satisfy the medical requirements of this province, to a fuller extent, we require more funds. But in the absence of funds, we must try to bring economy into the medical administration. Government have accepted the principle of substituting honorary men in the place of paid men; and they have appointed as many as 171 honorary medical officers in various hospitals. I would here like to know whether they have been able to curtail the number of salaried officers as a result of making these honorary appointments, and what savings they have effected by this means. The report says that this system has only been partially successful. I am afraid this honorary system has been given only a half-hearted trial like the experiments in prohibition. I would like to know whether the best men available, men who are specialists, men who are at the top of the profession, are selected when they apply for entertainment as honorary men, and if not, why the best men are not selected.

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" Sir, my hon. Friend, the mover of the motion also made mention about certain scandals in the Medical department. Recently a pamphlet of scandals in the Madras Medical department (the Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar: 'Anonymous.')—may be anonymous—has been sent to several of the members and I believe the Hon. the Minister also have received a copy of it. Now, Sir, they say that in the Madras General Hospital . . ."

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" On a point of order, Mr. Deputy President, I do not think the hon. Member can quote from anonymous reports received by him."

* Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—" Sir, I am not quoting from the pamphlet. The report has drawn attention to some of the scandals alleged to exist in the department. The allegations made are that some of the medical officers in the General Hospital give preference to patients who see them first and pay them something . . ."

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" Is it the hon. Member's allegation or the anonymous writer's? "

* Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—" The allegations made are that they put pressure on patients admitted into the hospital to get out of it and to take private treatment under them, that these doctors make use of the facilities available for diagnosis in this hospital and then they make their patients come out and have private treatment. The doctors to whom private practice has been forbidden, disobey the injunction and some of them not only do private practice, but they also run nursing homes. These are some of the allegations that are made against some of the medical officers in the General Hospital and in some of the hospitals in the City.

.5 " Private practitioners are placed at a great disadvantage. Medi-
n. cal officers who want to get diagnosis made for their private patients by means of bio-chemical analysis, bacteriological tests and X-ray photographs can manage to have these investigations done without paying anything for them. But if a private medical man wants to have such an investigation done he has to pay exorbitant fees. The fees for these tests at the Guindy Institute and at the Medical College or the General Hospital are higher than they are in London at the Charing Cross Hospital. A good percentage of the fees thus collected is said to be paid as remuneration to medical men who are paid officers under Government. I wish to know why it is necessary to collect such high fees, even more than what is levied in London and to pay a part of it as remuneration for these men who are given high salaries.

" Sir, the Medical Education Committee has said that we want no only more doctors but better doctors. They have emphasized the neces sity for having a single high standard of medical training and quali fication. We have abolished the L.M.S. altogether. We have ex tended the L.M.P. course to five years. The next step is to put a end to this L.M.P. degree and have only one high standard of qualif cation and training for all our medical students so that there may b

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no distinction among medical men. For those who want higher qualifications the University offers M.D. and M.S. degrees in different branches of medical science. All our medical students who come out of these medical colleges and schools should be given an opportunity to serve as house surgeons and house physicians in our big hospitals. Every student should go through a sort of apprenticeship as a law student does before he is allowed to register himself as a medical practitioner. Junior men who have put in less than five years should be brought into big hospitals and given opportunities for learning practical work. There are very few well qualified surgeons in the mufassal places. Our medical men should be given opportunities to go for higher studies to foreign countries by giving them study leave on half average pay. The number of such men has been restricted. We can allow more people to go on such leave without much loss and inconvenience because we have a large number of men on reserve duty. Medical men must be given all opportunities to go to foreign countries and learn the latest methods in medicine and surgery so that they may become up to date men. Take for instance the X-ray department in the General Hospital. The radiologist at this place seems to have undergone his training seven years ago but a great deal of advance has been made in this work since the time he underwent his training. We see many people go from the General Hospital to Dr. P. Rama Rao's X-ray institute because they say they get better treatment there and the doctor has got the advantage of having gone to foreign countries and learnt the latest method of work. With these words, I support the motion of Mr. Premayya."

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan:—" Mr. President, Sir, my friends who have spoken on the cut motion have already expressed the view point of many of the Members of this Council so far as the administration of the medical department in this province is concerned. The one thing which was stated by practically all the Members who have spoken already was that medical relief has become more and more costly to the poor men in this province. Medical relief is supposed to be free to poor people. But really speaking, it is not free. But on the other hand its cost is increasing. It is due to the fact that the necessary extent of purity in the administration is lacking. Those at the very head of affairs in the various hospitals have become examples to the people under them. Unless they are made to realize that they should serve as examples to the people under them, it will not be possible for the under-dog in the hospital to resist the temptation of squeezing as much money as possible from the poor patients that go to the hospitals. My experience is of only very few hospitals but from what my friends in the mufassal say it seems this is universal. I hope, Sir, the Hon. Minister will give his attention to that question.

" Only recently the question of the mental hospital has been raised by means of questions by my hon. Friend, Mr. Basheer Ahmed. In reply to those interpellations the Minister in charge was only responsible to the extent of giving an answer that it was on account of the want of funds that it has not been possible for them to extend the activities of that department. If the Hon. Minister in charge of this portfolio

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only visits the mental hospital as suggested by my Friend, Mr. Basheer Ahmed, he will realize under what handicaps the hospital is being worked. I do not wish to emphasise my point further and I leave it at that.

"One thing more to which I will make reference is the question of the Mussalmans in the Medical department. It is a well-known fact that there are not more than 2 or 2½ per cent of Mussalmans in the Medical department. I do not think there is any Mussalman surgeon out of the large number of surgeons in the Medical service. The number of assistant surgeons is also limited. It was in the year 1931 an examination was held by the Public Service Commission for appointment of assistant surgeons in the department. As a result of retrenchment it was found necessary to refuse exemption from fees to those candidates and that list has been in possession of the Government. Most of these persons who were found in the list had to find employment elsewhere. I am sure if the Government finds it necessary and possible to enlist new recruits as assistant surgeon for the department, their services will be required and in case they are prepared to appoint them they have to consider the necessity of giving them exemption in regard to the matter of age. There was only one Mussalman who was included in that list and that gentleman is still there and I am sure if Government are appointing assistant surgeons, his claims will be considered. After 1931 a good number of Mussalmans graduated in medicine and even those people on accouut of retrenchment, on account of the fact that a large number of officers in the department at the top were not prepared to retire as they were called upon to do, had to wait and they are still waiting. I understand the Government are likely to recruit assistant surgeons very soon. I hope, Sir, that the claims of these persons will be considered and that if exemption in the matter of age is necessary, that also will be considered favourably. This is a department, Sir, in which the representation of Mussalmans is the poorest and unless the Government try their utmost to equalise the representation of this community with that of the other communities there is no chance for members of this community to have their legitimate share in the services."

* Rao Sahib V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—" Mr. President, I hav given a cut motion to know exactly the policy of the Government i regard to different matters. Sir, as we go about it in the urban area we find that there are hospitals and dispensaries to give medical aid the poorer classes. But going into the interior I mean the rural par the fringe of the medical aid has not reached the poorer classes. Ta for instance agricultural labourers; wherever you go you do not fi any attempt has been made to give medical aid. The other day wh I happened to be at Chidambaram I found that some of the studer were not able to get any treatment either for the ear or for the ordina ailments like dysentery in the hospitals. Even in the urban areas,
3-30 p.m. is not possible for the present day doctors to diagnose exactly what t sickness in a man is. I am not here to pass a sweeping remark on t

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whole medical world as to their competency or incompetency in treating patients. But in most cases there is a feeling in the country that the medical aid afforded is not efficacious and that the diagnosis is not correct.

" Secondly, Sir, as regards the policy of the Government towards local boards and their hospitals and dispensaries, I find this on reading through the Triennial Report that has been circulated to us. The Government say:

'The question of taking over more institutions from the local bodies was considered and the Government came to the conclusion that in the present state of provincial finances no further commitment could be undertaken in respect of medical institutions under the control of local bodies. Hence no local fund or municipal medical institution was taken over during the triennium under review. The Government are however considering the question whether uniformity of principle cannot be achieved in the matter of medical relief without extra cost to the Government by a readjustment of responsibility between the Government and the local bodies.'

" Sir, during the last year, in my district of Nilgiris, due to the paucity of funds and the necessity to carry out the instructions of the Government to balance the budget, the District Board was rather compelled to close some of the dispensaries and hospitals. In this connexion, I would like to bring to the notice of the Hon. Minister that a hospital in a place known as Kolakumby, about 18 miles from Ootacamund, which was in existence for about 35 years, which was at first started by the European planters and which was giving medical aid to a labour population of nearly 6,000 people, had to be closed. I mean to say that the District Board has decided to close this hospital. They have also decided to close the dispensary in a place known as Kaity, about 6 miles from Ootacamund. Not satisfied with all this, the District Board also resolved to close the dispensaries at Kilkotagiri and Kilkundah, or to reduce them to the status of rural dispensaries. From this you will find that a large part of the district will be devoid of medical aid if the District Board were to close all those hospitals and dispensaries. I would therefore draw the attention of the Hon. Minister to consider this matter and to take steps to take over these dispensaries and hospitals immediately, as otherwise it will mean that all the labouring population will go without medical aid. Whatever may happen to the dispensaries, I feel very strongly in the matter of the impending abolition of the Kolakumby hospital, which has been in existence for more than a decade and has been giving some medical aid to the planting labourers and which lies at a distance of 11 miles from Coonoor and 18 miles from Ootacamund.

" Sir, during the debate on this demand some two years back, I brought to the notice of the Government the neglect on the part of the medical authorities of the Coimbatore Government hospital in regard to the depressed class people of Singanallur who had to be treated in that hospital, when these people were assaulted by the caste Hindus. The Hon. the Chief Minister who happened to hold this portfolio then asked me to bring to his notice or to the notice of the head of the Medical department all such instances, so that the authorities may take the concerned people to task. In July last, a very sad event

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took place in the Coimbatore hospital. A lady who was the mother of about eight children, after the full period of pregnancy, had her membrane ruptured with copious discharge of fluid without any kind of pain. This happened on the 1st of July 1935 at about 2 a.m. She went into the hospital at about 7 a.m. on the same day, that is, five hours after the rupture. The child was found to be dead and without movements in the womb, and yet it was not extracted till the evening of the next day, i.e., till 6 p.m. on the 2nd July. Septic poison had set in, and even on the delivery table she had rigor. Unfortunately, the lady died subsequently. When this matter was brought to my notice, I wrote to the Surgeon-General. But he says that on going through the matter no blame could be attached to the authorities concerned. However, I don't know why the authorities were so negligent in not removing the dead child from its mother's womb till the evening of the next day. These things are treated as a matter of course. I have no doubt that the authorities have been negligent. So, I would request the Hon. Minister to make careful enquiries into the matters of this kind and bring some comfort to the really suffering people."

* Mr. V. T. Arasu:—"Mr. Deputy President, Sir, I am sorry, Sir, that when this Medical demand, which is one of the most important demands from more than one point of view, is being discussed, this House should be so very thin. I wish in this connexion to make a suggestion to the Hon. the Leader of the House and that is that we should have written on the walls of this House the famous Latin motto, which Disreali had chosen to be the motto of the Conservative party, and that is *sanitas sanitatum, omnia sanitas*. I wish, Sir, that this Government had that motto writ large on the walls of this House, so that hon. Members of this House might be prompted to take greater interest in this matter. That motto itself means that the first consideration of the State should be the health of the people. I think, Sir, that will also serve as a guide to the Hon. Ministers who adorn the opposite bench. I think my Hon. Friend the Minister for Education would do well to devote greater time than he does at present to the Medical portfolio in preference to some of the other departments in his charge.

"Now coming to the subject proper, I should like to put a straight question to the Minister in charge of this department: 'In view of the fact that there are as many as 181 honorary medical officers employed in the hospitals in this Presidency, will the Hon. the Minister be pleased to state categorically the amount of saving that the introduction of this scheme has resulted in?' As far as I am able to find from a perusal of the budget figures, I may submit that instead of this scheme effecting any savings to Government the pay bill of the medical officers has been going on increasing all these years. I also find that in spite of the large number of honorary officers who have been employed, the number of paid officers has also been increasing. I submit, Sir, that if this honorary system is to become popular and is to be extended at all, it must simultaneously bring to the Government a saving by way of reduction in the expenditure over this department.

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" Sir, I should like to make one or two observations regarding the paid medical officers in the Madras Medical Service. It is very unfortunate that some officers should be placed in one and the same place for any number of years. I know of instances of officers who have been in Madras from the very time they were entertained in the service. I do not believe that they have ever been posted to any place outside Madras, although they have been in service for nearly twenty years. I submit that in the interest of efficiency and also in the interest of purity of administration these officers must be subjected to periodical transfer. These people have been in the city and have had the benefit of their stay in the metropolis, and it is only natural and just that Government should transfer them to mufassal stations where they can improve the conditions. By such transfers, we can also afford to mufassal officers an opportunity to come to Madras and bring their knowledge up to date. I know of one instance of a medical officer who is in charge of a district now who has been for over 25 years in the preventive side of medicine. He was for some time the Health Officer of the Corporation of Madras and afterwards officer in charge of malaria work in the Public Health Department. I do not know what Government expect that officer to do as District Medical Officer in charge of a district. I do not think Government can ordinarily expect that officer to know anything about the curative side of medicine, when he has been working on the preventive side for such a long time. Therefore, I submit that in order to enable such officers to brush up their knowledge of medicine they should be posted to one of the Madras hospitals. This kind of periodical transfers is only fair to the officers as well as to the masses of the people to whom it is the duty of Government to provide efficient medical aid.

" Sir, I would make just a few remarks regarding the hospital-building scheme of the Government of Madras. It is very unfortunate that Government should persist in spending large amounts of money for building hospitals. I do not for one moment suggest that hospitals should not be built. I am one of those who believe that more hospitals are necessary, and perhaps every village with a population of over two thousand must have a hospital of its own. But to say that we want more hospitals does not mean that Government should put up luxurious hospital buildings at enormous cost. We have as a standing monument of wasteful expenditure on buildings, the General Hospital, where new buildings have been constructed at a cost of about Rs. 50 lakhs. For what purpose?

" To accommodate about hundred more patients Government have 3
spent 50 lakhs. The other day we saw the opening of a children's p.m.
hospital at a cost of 3 lakhs, from public subscriptions, and it is to accommodate only about 50 patients. I submit for the serious consideration of Government that they must try and put up buildings at as cheap a cost as possible, instead of palatial buildings with marble flooring and ornamental tiled walls. All that is wanted is simple airy building which can provide accommodation for as many patients as possible. In this connexion I should like to draw the attention of the

Hon. Minister to the fact that under Part II schemes a sum of rupees 67,000 is proposed to be spent for the Coimbatore hospital, not for providing more accommodation, but merely for improving the sanitary condition of the hospital. It is preposterous that such a large sum should be spent for this purpose. It can very well be utilized for building a new hospital to accommodate about 100 patients.

"As regards medical education, I agree with my hon. Friend, Mr. Shetty, when he said that we must congratulate the Government on the introduction of the five-year scheme. I would add that our meed of thanks is specially due to the Superintendent of the Rayapuram Medical School who was responsible for this scheme. I do not agree with Mr. Schamnad when he said that four more medical schools should be opened in the different parts of the Presidency. It is always better and ultimately more profitable to Government, if they concentrate on one or two institutions and improve them to the utmost extent possible than opening new ill-equipped institutions in different parts of the Presidency. In this connexion I have one observation to make, and that is in regard to the provision of Rs. 2,000 for the appointment of a lecturer in the Lady Willingdon Medical School. I submit that the Hon. Minister would do well to appoint fully qualified persons instead of L.M.Ps. as at present proposed to be lecturers in these schools. I suggest to the Hon. Minister to come forward with a supplementary demand to enable him to appoint fully qualified people as lecturers. It is impossible to think of an L.M.P. being capable of giving proper training to the students there. I submit that this item be deleted, and the Hon. Minister be pleased to come forward with a supplementary demand before this House, at a later date, for appointing better qualified lecturers to the Lady Willingdon Medical School."

Mr. P. Peddi Raju:—"If I want to intervene in this debate, it is to point out the necessity for Government taking more interest in medical help in the rural areas than in the urban. Sir, we see that the Budget allotment for Medical—both reserved and transferred—has been no doubt increasing year after year; and we are thankful to Government for that. But as you are all aware, the Government is deriving most of its revenues from the rural population, and is it not proper that it should spend at least a reasonable porportion of the income on medical relief in rural areas? During the last two years, that is, 1934–35 and 1935–36, there is an increasing allotment of 4 lakhs under this head and if we compare the figures of the last 15 years we see that the rise in expenditure is very high. But the question is, 'What are the improvements effected or sought to be effected in the matter of medical relief in rural areas?' At one time Government made some provision for rural dispensaries and now they have given it up and they are not even allowing local bodies to open new rural dispensaries whenever they want. So my chief request to the Chief Minister is, whatever he may promise every year in his replies, that he would take special care of the rural interests. I am sorry that Government is not doing its duty to the country in the matter of making better provision for rural medical officers. So I would insist that they should, of necessity,

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apart half the allotment at least, for the rural areas. In this connexion I have to point out that not only have they stopped providing some money to the rural dispensaries but they have also ceased taking up the taluk headquarter hospitals in their charge. As my friend, Mr. Premayya, pointed out, the headquarter hospitals have considerably improved after Government had taken charge of them. So why should Government take charge of headquarter hospitals in certain taluks only and neglect the rest? Take my own district. There are seven taluks there and only three have been taken charge of by Government. Still there are four under the charge of local boards. That means that more than half the district is neglected, quite apart from the fact that there are no new rural dispensaries opened during the last half a dozen years. It is not a question whether my district has been favoured or not. I am only condemning the policy pursued by Government.

"Then, Sir, I have been agitating before this Government that so far as the Ellore Headquarter hospital is concerned, every Surgeon-General has been condemning that it is not even fit to be a dispensary. It is situated in a water-logged area, surrounded on all sides by a number of latrines; and there is no proper building even. But every time this matter comes up, the Hon. Minister in charge says that estimates are being got ready. I was always saying that an estimate was prepared some five or six years back and approved by the Government, but the reply is, it is going to be revised. When it is going to be revised I do not know. A site has been acquired and at one time tenders were called for. I do not know at what stage it is. Whenever I raise this question, or the public do it, the reply always is, the matter is under consideration and revised estimates are being prepared. So it is a scandal that there should be no hospital in the headquarters of the district. It is not like other headquarter hospitals because this hospital was practically a dispensary under the municipality some years ago, and it has now become a headquarters hospital; but the Government make no provision for its improvement.

"One other point I would ask the Hon. Minister to take into consideration. The Hon. Minister is aware that some years ago the Public Services Commission called for applications from the medical graduates. They held a sort of competitive examination for which they collected fees, and at last selected 15 people with due regard to communal representation and other things. These 15 people are coming year after year from their native places and troubling both the Government and the Surgeon-General. as to whether they would get any appointment; and they are told each time that the matter is being considered. Unfortunately, it was only last year that the Surgeon-General informed them that there were no vacancies and their services would not be required. Now, I understand, soon after this reply was given, a number of vacancies have arisen. I would ask the Chief Minister whether he has considered this question of providing places for those who have been selected or whether he is going to have a separate examination and a separate service altogether. My submission is this. We on

this side of the House have been complaining that in these examinations a lot of fees is collected and people are put to many difficulties, and after all, they do not get into service even if they pass. In the case under reference people are medical graduates who have undergone a long course in the medical college and a special examination for which some fees also have been collected, and I think it is but right that Government should see that those who were selected already should be entertained without any more examinations.

"There is one other point. In the case of departmental officers granting medical certificates to the subordinates of local boards and municipalities as well as of Government, Government have fixed a rule that the head of the department may call upon the applicant to appear before the District Medical Officer and obtain a certificate. It looks as if it is imperative that if the head of the department so chooses the subordinate should obtain the medical certificate only from that officer and not from any other. An instance must have come to the notice of Government where the Chief Surgeon and Physician of Vizagapatam gave a certificate to a subordinate. The head of the department asked him to produce a certificate from the District Medical Officer. The man is in the hospital and how can he be expected to go to the District Medical Officer? I do not know why this is insisted on, whether it is to get more fees for the medical officer or because they are not satisfied with the examination by an ordinary surgeon. I am also aware that the Government have been addressed by the president of the district board in that respect. So my submission is that, if people are suffering in distant places they ought not to be troubled like this, and that proper rules should be framed by Government."

II.—ADJOURNMENT MOTION *RE* THE ENHANCEMENT OF PROVINCIAL TAX ON MOTOR BUSES—*cont.*

m. Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Mr. President, I move that the business of the House be adjourned for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance, to wit, the recent enhancement of the provincial tax on motor buses from Rs. 7-8-0 per seat to Rs. 8-12-0.

"Sir, I am extremely sorry that the Government should have thought it fit to enhance the tax from Rs. 7–8–0 to Rs. 8–12–0 per seat on the buses and taxis that are plying in the province. It may be remembered that when the Provincial Motor Vehicles Taxation Act was on the anvil in this Legislature, there was a good deal of opposition to it not only because of the fact that there was a volume of opinion against the abolition of tolls, but also on account of the fact that the entire burden of tax was thrown on the motor vehicles and not distributed among all vehicles whether motor or non-motor. All the carts and other vehicles, apart from motor vehicles, were exempted and the entire tax which was collected at that time from the tolls, namely, nearly Rs. 70 lakhs, was sought to be collected by taxing the motor vehicles plying in the Province. Of the various classes of motor vehicles, those that have been taxed very heavily are the buses and the taxis that ply for hire. The maximum tax that was fixed per quarter per seat for these

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vehicles was Rs. 10. At that time, on account of the representation made by a very large section of this House and by those interested in this trade, the Hon. the Chief Minister made us understand that the Government would not enhance the tax beyond Rs. 7–8–0 per seat. (Sriman M. G. Patnaik Mahasayo: 'Question.') The hon. Member who questions it was not there at the time. There were serious objections raised against the Motor Vehicles Taxation Bill and the Hon. Minister, in order to get it passed, had to make compromise on various points, and this was one of them. The Government was compelled to levy the tax Rs. 7–8–0 per seat and not Rs. 10 per seat which they had proposed in the Bill. This fact itself shows that the Hon. the Chief Minister and the Government considered that Rs. 7–8–0 per seat was the proper rate and that they should not levy any higher rate. Now, Sir, I wish to know from the Government what exactly the reason or the justification for enhancing the tax is. The Government should be in possession of facts which go to show either that the bus or taxi trade in the Province has been very profitable or that the conditions have so changed as to enable the people engaged in the trade to pay enhanced taxes justifying the Government action in enhancing the rate. I do not think, Sir, that the Government can claim to have in their possession any such facts. I should think that they have enhanced this tax simply because they are unable otherwise to meet the demands of the local boards for the contributions which the Government have to make to them in lieu of the income from tolls. I am afraid if anybody is responsible for such a situation, it is the Government who brought forward this Bill in 1931 and had it pushed through. The Government were getting a very handsome revenue from tolls. By some means or other, they made an exaggerated estimate of the number of motor vehicles plying in the Province and calculated that they would derive a revenue of about Rs. 70 lakhs from this source. At that time it was pointed out to the Government that their figures were highly exaggerated and that there were not as many motor vehicles plying for hire in the Province as they estimated with a view to get that Bill through. In spite of that, the Government got this Bill through and afterwards found that their estimate was wrong and that they would not be able to collect even half the amount anticipated. Last year, according to their admission, they were not able to collect more than Rs. 35 lakhs or so, whereas according to the estimate originally made by them they should get Rs. 65 or Rs. 70 lakhs from this tax. That was the initial mistake. If without recognizing that initial mistake, and without recognizing the fact that the burden of taxation should have been evenly divided among motor-vehicles and non-motor vehicles, they come forward at this juncture to enhance the rate to bring in an additional revenue of Rs. 3 lakhs, it shows that they have not bestowed sufficient attention on this question. If the Government recognize that so far as this measure is concerned they have failed to collect the amount of revenue they expected to, and that they, on account of the fact that hon. Members representing the districts and hon. Members interested

in the local boards are not in a position to restore the tolls so far as the cars are concerned, I do not think that is an argument or justification for adding to the burden which has been laid on motor vehicles already.

" The bus-owner or the taxi-owner to-day is in a very hopeless plight. If there are a large number of buses or taxis plying either in the streets of Madras or elsewhere in the province to-day, it is not due to the fact that this is a very profitable trade or that those engaged in this profession are making large sums from it. This is a trade which has been resorted to by individuals who have no other calling or profession. It is only when they find that they cannot engage themselves in other professions or callings, instead of remaining idle, they run up to the owners of motor firms or other concerns engaged in motor trade and get hold of a bus or taxi on the instalment system. It is not difficult for anybody to get these vehicles on the instalment system. Under this system one has got to pay the entire amount to the firm for getting possession of a vehicle. One can pay a third or less than third of the price and take possession of the vehicle. What happens is that people buy these vehicles on the instalment system and pay up the first few instalments. Afterwards, in most cases, they do not find it possible to pay the rest of the instalments and make the vehicle their own. There are a large number of such cases in the city itself where the owners, on account of the increasing losses month after month, have had to borrow money from the Marwaris to pay up the instalments on the security of the so-called possession of these vehicles. When in this way their indebtedness increases and they find that they are not in a position to pay either the instalments due or their dues to the Marwaris, they are obliged to surrender the vehicles to the firms from which they purchased them. This shows that they live not so much upon the income from this trade as upon the capital itself. They eat up the capital month after month and, at the end of the period, they find themselves at a great disadvantage. Having incurred a heavy loss, they ultimately hand over the vehicle to the firm in the condition in which it is found at the end of the period. Such is the position in which owners of buses and taxis are put to. In this state of affairs, I do not know what justification the Government have for enhancing the burden of tax on these poor owners of vehicles.

" It may be remembered, Sir, that the bus-owners have not only to pay for the seats which bring them fares, but they have also to pay for the seats which do not bring them any income. These are the seats which are occupied by the driver and the conductor. Even in the beginning, at the time the Bill was being considered, some of us pointed out this aspect of the question to the Government; but they were not able to see eye to eye with us and levied the tax on even those seats. That itself is a great hardship. The bus-owners are made to pay even for those seats which do not earn anything for them. That means they are made to pay at the rate of Rs. 15 for two seats per quarter more than what they ought to pay.

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"Over and above that the Government have come forward at 4
present even to enhance the present rate of Rs. 7–8–0 and expect them P
to pay Rs. 8–12–0 per seat. But I hope the Government will realize that it is a great hardship and that it will tell heavily upon those classes of people who are engaged in this trade. Government were kind enough to realize how difficult it was for those people who are engaged in the tobacco trade to pay a tax on tobacco and as a result of the agitation that was carried on outside this House and as a result of the fact that agitation had the support of all sides of this House, the Hon. the Revenue Member was wise and kind enough not to press the Bill finally. Was it due to the fact that the Government withdrew that Bill which meant a loss of revenue of some lakhs to them and was it due to the fact that they would become unpopular by levying any tolls on cart-owners and non-motor vehicle-owners that these unfortunate bus-owners were caught hold of and this tax has been levied upon them? Was it due to the fact that they are not a vocal class of people and that they are not in a position to agitate sufficiently or that they are not in a position to make their representations to such an extent as to compel the Government to withdraw any measure which they propose, that they have proposed this enhancement? I hope the Government will realize that whenever they are introducing new taxation or enhancement of any tax from what it exists at present they ought to give sufficient notice to those whom it affects. They have increased this tax suddenly and without giving sufficient notice to those people who are engaged in this particular trade. I conclude with the hope that the Hon. the Chief Minister in particular and the Government in general including the Hon. the Finance Member will consider this matter very seriously; for it affects a very large class of people who are not in a position to pay this enhanced tax."

* Mr. V. P. NARAYANAN NAMBIYAR :—"I second the motion. I quite appreciate the anxiety of the Government to help the district boards to function properly. But that is no reason to throw the entire incidence of taxation on one class of vehicles. If in this connexion the problem of taxing carts has to be faced, it must be faced. Mr. President, I am aware that the hon. Member Mr. Langley is going to make a very powerful speech in support of this motion. From what I know of the hon. gentleman, I am certain that I shall not have to differ from him. I, therefore, agree in anticipation with all that will be said by the hon. Member Mr. Langley."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The question is that the business of the House be adjourned."

* Mr. W. K. M. LANGLEY :—"Sir, the other day my hon. Friend, Sir A. P. Patro, was good enough to suggest, in my absence unfortunately, that the Group with which I am associated were always ready to run bound at the chariot wheels of the present Government of this Province. I am ready to discuss this matter with my hon. Friend, but he is not here at present, so I can only say that I shall not follow his example. But I can assure him, and this House, that to-day we

have no intention of following in the wake of Government. We must oppose the suggestion that the tax on these poor bus-owners should be so materially increased. It almost amazes one that such a tax should be even proposed. One would almost imagine that there had been no sort of agitation in this Presidency, and in this House, and in every possible quarter, on this subject of the Motor Taxation Act, which admittedly has completely and utterly broken down as a workable measure. Yet we find that Government is prepared still to imagine that it is workable, and to make this proposal materially to increase the already overpowering burden on the bus-owner of this Presidency. Now I am speaking, on this occasion, not particularly on behalf of my Group, but on behalf of my own constituency, the planters of this Presidency. No other industry in this Province, I suppose, has received so much benefit from the development of the motor industry as the planting industry has received. It has enabled the poor labourers on plantations to go conveniently from their homes right up to the plantations, and back again to their homes. Those who are so many miles away from their homes can now easily and conveniently move about, and mobility has greatly increased. This taxation will very greatly affect those people who, at great financial risk to themselves, are running these buses in all parts of the Presidency, and more particularly in a district like that from which I come, which is very poorly served indeed by railways, and where hitherto the only means of moving about was either by bullock-bandy or on one's own flat feet. Now the poor man can travel in a bus just as easily and conveniently as a rich man in the best possible motor car, but the former can only do so, so long as buses are plying on the roads. I am most emphatically of the opinion that the limit of taxation has been reached so far as motor taxation is concerned. In fact it has been considerably exceeded in respect of this bus industry, and any further increase would be almost dangerous: if you cast any increased burden upon this already overburdened industry, it would, in effect, be the last straw which will definitely and utterly break the camel's back. The United Planters' Association, which is the body which deals with all matters relating to planting and the planting industry, had occasion to look into this matter of motor taxation some little time ago, and with the able assistance of the Automobile Association of Southern India, and more particularly of the Madras Chamber of Commerce, addressed a very powerful and important letter to the Government of India on the subject of the present taxation on the motor industry in this Province. I do not propose to quote this letter *in extenso*, but there are one or two points in it which I should like to place before this House in connexion with this motion. The associations concerned went most carefully into the figures, and examined them thoroughly; and these figures can be absolutely relied upon. Excluding the import duty on buses and solely dealing with actual taxation of all kinds and the expenditure of running, they showed that the ordinary buses of the type weighing about 25 cwt.—23 seater buses—should run at an annual cost of Rs. 8,609 on an average, out of which the local taxation (which includes the cost of the petrol-tax, some o

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which comes back to the Province) comes to Rs. 2,956. In other words the direct and indirect taxation on the owner amounts to 34 per cent of the annual cost, and the actual total of direct taxation alone amounts to 20 per cent. That is heavy enough in all conscience. In addition to this, this form of taxation definitely offends the fundamental canons of taxation, viz., that no person should be taxed twice for the same purpose; not only are the bus-owners taxed by the provincial Government, but they are also again taxed by one or more district boards practically on the same basis. They are again taxed by municipalities—probably by two municipalities at least. Thus, in one way or another the bus-owner is paying, to approximately five different authorities, virtually the same taxation. That, I maintain, is contrary, as I have already said, to the fundamental canons of taxation. But apart from this, the Hon. the Chief Minister, when speaking this morning, objecting to the introduction of this motion by my hon. Friend, Mr. Hameed Khan, suggested that the existing Motor Taxation Act already gave power to impose this additional taxation, and, in fact, if necessary, to impose even more. Well, I should have thought that it was sufficiently plain, as I have already indicated, that this Motor Taxation Act is not only dead, but damned; and that Government had no right to invoke any of the provisions of that Act in order further to increase the burden which is admitted on practically all sides to be intolerable—a burden moreover which is borne by one section of the community only, viz., the Motor Trade. That again brings me to a further point. Double tax is bad enough. But that a tax, for the purpose of maintaining the roads for the benefit of all classes of the community, should be imposed on only one class, offends the absolute and fundamental principles of democracy. In that respect I should just like to remind the front bench on this side of the House of a speech which they have probably very frequently heard quoted; a very famous speech in connexion with indirect taxation made by the late Mr. Asquith (as he was then, and is better known)—the late Lord Oxford and Asquith. This is what he stated categorically in the House of Commons:—

'I do not think there is any doctrine more fatal to the root principle of democratic government than that it should consist in the constant amelioration at great expense to the community of the social conditions of the less favoured classes in the country at the sole and exclusive expense of other classes.'

"Mr. President, Sir, it is on that principle, that we on these benches, who claim to be genuine democrats, will continue to oppose any further form of taxation on the motor trade in this Presidency so long as other users of the road do not meet their fair share of the upkeep of these roads. We shall therefore strongly oppose this proposal to increase the taxation on the bus-owner, and we shall continue to oppose all such forms of increased taxes and even the existing form of taxation on the bus-owner and the motor user of the road, until a more equitable method of distribution of the expenses of maintaining the roads in this Presidency is evolved."

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* Sriman M. G. PATNAIK Mahasayo:—" Sir, this question has been coming up since a very long time ago and we know my hon. Friend, Mr. Hameed Khan, has been a staunch friend not only of the bus-owners but also of the toll-gate contractors. When the Bill was first introduced he fought for the sake of the toll-gate contractors. He said that the toll-gate contractors would all die because they could not find any other means of livelihood and therefore he urged that toll-gates should not be abolished. Sir, how far this principle for which he contends is consistent with his nationalistic principles may be easily imagined of course by people who know something of his nationalistic views.

" However, first of all, before dealing with his speech I should like to deal with certain principles enunciated by my hon. Friend, Mr. Langley. He has stated that taxation should not be confined to a particular class of people but that it should be evenly distributed. Apparently he refers to the fact that bullock-carts do not pay tolls. Sir, I do not at all object to his principle, but I should like to point out that his application of the principle is not at all correct. For he ought to know that for the maintenance of the roads large sums of money are contributed by the agriculturists in the shape of the land-cess. The roads are maintained at the cost of the poor man who cultivates th land. Then when he plies a cart you want to levy another tax on hi cart. Not only that, may I ask for whom are the buses intended? The are intended for the very poor people who cultivate the land. It they who get into these buses. I should say they are tempted to ge into these buses and in this way they make an indirect contribution the taxes paid by the bus-owners. Therefore on principle there nothing wrong in exempting the carts from tolls. The principle is a right. Mr. Langley's principle also is all right; only he is wrong in h application of it. Therefore the argument of my hon. Frien Mr. Langley, falls to the ground. The same point was referred to my other learned Friends who spoke before him and therefore I need n deal with them again.

" Then, Sir, the analogy of the Tobacco Bill was adduced, I submit that it has nothing to do with this. Here of course, I maint that it is the poor man who gets into these buses who really pays tax; he contributes indirectly for the tax. But the Tobacco Bill sta on a different footing altogether. Therefore the introduction of analogy of the Tobacco Bill by my hon. Friend as pointed out by Leader is quite irrelevant.

" Then, Sir, let us go into the question, the most important quest I have dealt with this several times but I have to refer to that ag No doubt the taxation of buses is going to be increased to some ext but this is going to be done only to benefit the local bodies. There complaint, Sir, that the district boards are not able to maintain roads well because the contribution they get from the Governme much smaller than what was expected to be paid to them at the when the Motor Vehicles Taxation Act was passed. Therefore if

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contribution paid to the local bodies is not increased what will be the effect? The roads will not be maintained in a perfectly good condition. That means that the bus-owner himself will find great difficulty, because several of his tyres will burst and he will have to spend considerable sums of money in repairing or replacing them. Therefore the additional contribution of Re. 1–4–0 that is now asked for is not really a loss to the bus-owner. The bus-owner can raise his fare to a certain extent. If he raised it by three pies he can compensate himself for the increased taxation that he is called upon to pay and there will be no loss to him.

" Sir, we can easily understand why the European Group in this Council take so much interest in this matter. We know that they want a large number of buses to be on the road. That is their interest. That is why they want that the taxation should be as low as possible, so that all the poor men could get into these buses. That means that Indian money should be drained away. That is their object—to earn money. (Laughter.) And my hon. Friend the Hon. Mayor of Madras is supporting their case. (Laughter.) That is their real object of course we all know why the Motor Vehicles Taxation Bill was passed. We know that. That Bill was passed on the distinct understanding that no tolls should be levied on bullock-carts. It was on that understanding that the Bill was passed. We know also that that was the work of the European Group itself. Then of course they gave certain calculations which went to show that by levying the motor-tax at a certain rate and exempting the carts from tolls there would be great benefit to the people. They thought that it could be done. Subseqnently however they found that their object did not succeed. They wanted further taxation, the licence fees, to be levied by the local boards. The boards collected different fees. The hon. Member Mr. Birley introduced a Bill to make these licence fees uniform. Several boards suffered because of the reduction in the income from this source. Now they object to the raising of the provincial tax and want to force the boards to relevy the tolls on carts so that the taxation on motors may be as low as possible, so that people may go in for these buses and ruin themselves. (Laughter.) Yes, it is a fact. Everybody knows that. Because of the competition we find that bus-owners are outbidding each other. They charge very low fares. That is why they are incurring losses. I do admit they are incurring losses, but that is because of the tempting terms of the firms to them. The buses are given to them for nothing at the beginning; afterwards they take away the buses. (Laughter.) Yes, because they are not able to pay the price. That is on account of the hire-purchase system on which they sell these buses. Of course they want a number of buses to be on the road. First of all they take a very small sum of money as the first instalment of payment for the bus and then the bus runs on the road. On account of the unhealthy competition among the bus-owners, ultimately a number of buses go off the road, with the result that bus-owners are ruined. But for whose benefit is all this done? For

the benefit of the European Group. (Laughter.) (Dr. P. Subbarayan: 'How are they benefited?') If they sell buses they get a certain profit but the purchaser is ruined. It does not matter to them. All that they want is that these people should purchase a number of buses.

"There is also another fact which you have to take into consideration. Sir, there is absolutely no reason why by encouraging bus traffic we should injure railway traffic. We know that railways after all are a concern of the State, and the people are very much interested in their profits. Therefore if the railway earnings are reduced, of course the State will suffer and that means the people will suffer. But here in the case of motor trade who will be benefited if there is good bus traffic? Mostly the European merchants and nextly the bus-owners and then probably a few drivers and then probably their advisers. (Laughter.) The cheapness of the bus fares is, I say, very injurious to the people, because people who cannot afford to spend even 2 or 3 annas a day for their food are tempted to travel in these buses. I think the bus fares should not be so low as they are to-day; they must be a little higher. Only certain classes of people who were accustomed to travel in carts should now travel in buses. If the rates are cheap the people get into these buses without any thought of how they are going to meet the cost of their daily food. They pay 2 or 3 annas, get into the bus, go some distance and then go home without any money. Then of course the whole family suffers. I say there is no difference between arrack drinking and bus travel. At least so far as arrack is concerned the excise revenue goes to the Government, but here in the case of buses the profit goes to the foreigners. Therefore it is worse than that. (Laughter.)

"My hon. Friend, Mr. Hameed Khan, said that the people affected are not vocal. Sir, can anybody be more vocal than those whom my hon. Friend represents here? It is said that the bus-owners are not vocal.

45 .m. "The bus-owners are vocal through my hon. Friend, Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan and nobody is more vocal than he . . ."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The hon. Member has got two minutes before him."

Sriman M. G. PATNAIK Mahasayo:—"I have done, Sir."

* Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—"Mr. President, Sir, I have much pleasure in supporting the adjournment motion that is now before the House. In doing so, I want to make it clear that I am not in the least prepared to give my assent for levying tolls on country carts mostly owned by the ryots. I have been repeatedly saying that the position of the ryot is such that he is not able to bear any more burden, and on the other hand the present level of taxes on him needs reduction. The ryot is already contributing his share by way of cesses separate from other taxes for the upkeep of the roads and it is not just to levy any additional tax on him by way of tolls for the same purpose. My hon. Friend Mr. Patnaik, observed that it is the poor people that are travelling in these

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buses. These are mostly ryots, and they are contributing towards the upkeep of the roads again through these buses. They are already poor. I do not know why they should be taxed further by this sort of enhancing the rate. I do not think my hon. Friend can put a stop to these people getting into the buses and travelling to various places, by enhancing the rate as now proposed. But at the same time we will be putting additional burden on these poor people as they will have to pay more bus fares, if bus people are to increase their rates in consequence. That aspect of the question should be taken into consideration. I may say, Sir, that it is the poor people that are taxed by this increase. We know that bus traffic is increasing rapidly and poor people are having convenient ways of conveyance by these buses. So, in the interests of the poor and middle classes, we must see that this useful industry is not in the least disturbed. It is a plain fact, Sir, that the bus-owners are not able to make both ends meet even under the present rates. On account of great competition among themselves, the bus-owners, in very many cases are not able to realize the investment they first make in this trade. The bus-owners often try to manage to get some money by mortgaging their properties or by taking some other kind of loan. Then they purchase a bus on the hire-purchase system. By running the bus, they try to pay up the monthly demand to the company besides meeting their daily expenditure; in the end when the bus becomes old and is not fit to be used, they find they have not been able to discharge their liabilities to the company fully in many a case. They are not at all able to realize the amount they first invested. There is this additional trouble of the Police Department for them at every turn. Thus we find that a large number of people who take up this business are put to much loss, though they appear to be running the service for the time being. It should be admitted on all hands that the people are already suffering very much and it is not proper and advisable to raise the tax on these buses to any extent, however small it may be at this moment, taking the sad plight of the bus people and the general public into consideration.

" It is stated that the increase in the rate is made to help the local bodies, which are in need of more finances. My opinion is that if the local bodies manage their affairs more prudently and try to get proper value for the amount they spend on works, I am confident they will be able to manage their affairs more efficiently without the necessity of getting any additional income by this enhanced rate. I must ask the Government to see first of all that these local bodies get the maximum return for the money they spend and extract not less than 80 or 85 per cent of the value for the money which they are spending on works. If such a method is adopted, there will be no necessity for them to press for additional funds. I am confident that the local hodies will be able to run their administration more efficiently without having any need to tax the poor people in this way. As I have already pointed out, this increased rate will touch the poor man and put him to very great difficulty. So, I have much pleasure in supporting the motion before the House."

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Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari:—" Mr. President, Sir, I am sorry I have to oppose the motion moved by my hon. Friend, to be consistent with the policy which I have been adopting on this question. When the hon. Member, Mr. Birley, moved his Bill last time, it was opposed by many Members of the Opposition, including my friend, Mr. Ramalingam Chettiyar, saying that it is not in the interests of the public. My Hon. Friend, Mr. Pannirselvam, when he was a non-official Member, opposed the Bill. He said then something to this effect: 'As far as Tanjore is concerned, there are, I believe, half a dozen roads and half a dozen rates; this does not show that there is any sense of responsibility about them; laying down one uniform flat rate at Rs. 7–8–0 or raising it to Rs. 10 per seat as the maximum will not work.' He had been administering the affairs of the district board for several years and he gave his view based on the experience he had. Of course he will not come to my rescue now, as he is now on the Treasury Bench. Yet, I want to bring his views to the notice of the House. My hon. Friend, the Leader of the Opposition, Dr. Subbarayan, stated at that time that the condition of the roads was bad and that roads had to be improved and that the necessary taxes had to be paid by the motor bus. 'By reducing the rates, you will be killing the goose that is laying the golden egg.' This is exactly what the Leader of the Opposition stated then.

" I feel there is no harm in increasing the rate at present from Rs. 7–8–0 to Rs. 8–4–0. I wish to bring to the notice of the Government that the Hon. the Raja of Bobbili who was very anxious to support the Bill then moved by my hon. Friend, Mr. Birley, said that the Government had got the power of increasing the rate without any legislation. This is what he said in reply to my late leader, Diwan Bahadur Muniswami Nayudu. I say that the Government are doing their duty when they increase the rate. Whenever the Government lay a new road, they have a right to realize the money they have spent on that road. The Government have got similar powers to increase the rate on motor buses.

" When Mr. Vipan's report was considered by the House, it was stated that tolls should be levied when a new road or a new bridge is constructed. My hon. Friend, Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan, the Mayor of Madras, did not show his sympathy to the bus-owner when Mr. Vipan's report was considered. I do not know why he is so very sympathetic to the bus-owner now. The district boards are not able to run their administration efficiently and properly. Sometime ago the Hon. the Chief Minister wanted to introduce the Tolls Bill as he thought that the financial condition of the local boards was not sound. Perhaps on account of public opinion or on account of difference of opinion among his party followers, he himself dropped the idea. The agriculturists are already paying heavy taxes. For every one rupee, they are paying As. 1–9. By increasing the tax on motor-vehicles, the bus-owners are not going to suffer. This additional tax will be borne by people who use the bus. The bus-owner need not pay from his pocket, and so he is not affected by this increase. This increased rate will fall on people

who use the bus. I feel, Sir, that this rate can reasonably be raised, so that local bodies may be able to run their administration properly and efficiently, which they are not able to do at present. With these observations, I oppose the adjournment motion moved by my hon. Friend."

* Diwan Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGAM CHETTIYAR:—" Mr. President, Sir, I feel that there are three interests which are concerned in the matter. The arrangement that is now in existence seems to be a very wasteful one. At present in every road a number of companies are running their buses and they are taxed very heavily. The road deteriorates; bus-owners become bankrupts and nobody actually gains. No doubt the position of the district boards requires very careful consideration. They require augmentation of their resources very much indeed. But the question is how it is to be done. Is it by raising the rates at present prevailing? The complaint now is that the rates are already high. Is it to be done by increasing the present rates? Or is it to be done by some other means? That is the question that we have to tackle now.

" It seems to me that this is the better way. There is first the question of augmenting the resources of the district boards; secondly there is the question of avoiding the deterioration of the roads; thirdly there is the financial position of the bus-owners. It seems to me that if the system is changed and if the right of running buses on a particular road is auctioned and given to only one company, perhaps all these various interests will be served. The difficulty of the bus-owner will be solved because he is the only man who will run the buses on that road. There is not going to be competition; he will have all the traffic; he will get the money. He knows how much he can expect and he will bid for that amount. The district board will get the maximum benefit of buses running on that particular road. The road would not deteriorate as there will not be a large number of buses running on that road. The bus-owner also would not be put to any loss. All the three interests involved will be served by adopting such a method; the district board also will stand to gain.

" Then there are two questions, one just now asked, and the other 5 p
which was asked here, but not so loudly. As regards the public, before the auction there will always be conditions imposed with reference to the fees to be charged, the conditions in which the buses will be kept, the number of inspections that will be made of the buses and all that, and also the times at which the buses should run. For instance, even at present, there are rules that buses can run only once in an hour on certain roads. Certainly, when these conditions are imposed before an auction is held, the requirements of the public will be served. The other question that was raised is: there are so many bus companies, and if you are going to auction like this, what is to become of the other companies? There, again, in each district there are at least 100 to 150 roads. If you are going to auction, each company can take one or other

of the roads. And thus, there will be work for all the companies. So, neither the public nor the bus-owners have been forgotten in the proposal that is made. If this arrangement is accepted, it will lead to greater efficiency and a more effective supply of the demand of the public; because, there will be a man undertaking to run the service, who will be liable to prosecution or penalties in case he does not run an efficient service. There is no chance also of his becoming a bankrupt, as is the case in respect of a number of buses which are running uneconomically at present. It seems to me therefore that the adoption of a system like this will avoid the difficulties that are felt and secure an efficient service to the people, bringing at the same time proper revenue to the district boards. I do not see any reason why the district boards should not get, by way of this auction, as much as possible, by giving the monopoly of running buses on a particular road to one company. There is no doubt whatever that this system of auction will get for them much more revenue than they are getting now. I would therefore ask the Hon. Minister to consider whether this is not a better system than going on adding to the licensing fees every year in order to augment no doubt the naturally dwindling revenues of the district boards. This system, as in the old days the toll system did, will go on giving better resources to the district boards, and the revenue will be a growing revenue, not a falling revenue. Therefore, I recommend this system to the Hon. Minister. The present proposal to raise the fees under present conditions does not appeal to me to be of any good, either to the bus-owner or to the public or even to the district boards. The natural result of raising the fees will be the going out of service of several of the buses which are at present running on the roads."

* Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar :—" Mr. President, Sir, it is obvious that we have before us a problem on which much can be said on both sides. On the one side, you have the district boards whose income from tolls had been taken away, in lieu of which they were promised almost an equal amount of revenue from out of the revenue derived from motor-buses and cars. But the expectations have not been fulfilled and as all of us know, the plight of the district boards which are by no means getting the revenue that they had been promised, is getting more and more serious. The Government have resorted to this method of increasing the fees, and thereby augmenting the revenues of the district boards. On the other side, you have the complaint of my hon. Friend, Mr. Langley—and I think a legitimate complaint if I may say so—that it is hardly fair that the burden of the maintenance of roads should fall on a particular class of people or people who use a particular class of conveyance, especially when those roads are being used perhaps even to a larger extent by vehicles like country carts, etc. Now, what is the remedy open to us? Does the hon. Member Mr. Langley suggest the reimposition of tolls? If he does so, I may assure him that he will find very little support even from those who have supported his motion from this side. We have heard the hon. Mr. Nachiyappa Gounder

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explicitly stating that he for one is not for the re-imposition of tolls. What then, Sir, is the other alternative? My friend Mr. Ramalingam Chettiyar has proposed a scheme which perhaps is sound, according to him, and that is to auction the monopoly to run buses on particular roads, and thereby try to get every year an increasing revenue. But I see no reference by him to the lot of the poor passengers who have to use these buses, with nobody whatever to control the rates charged to the passengers. What is his idea? "

Diwan Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGAM CHETTIYAR :—" I said, Sir, that the charges will be fixed, also the inspection of the conveyances, the time at which they should start—all these things will be fixed as conditions."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" My hon. Friend is perhaps not aware that much of what he has said is already in force in many of the districts; the timings are fixed—when these buses should start and when they should reach their destination. There is also some control now over the rates, but if he is going to fix low rates and at the same time give a monopoly to particular people, what will happen? On the one side, he wants to reduce the rates, while on the other side he wants to increase the revenue for the district boards or for the Government. Sir, this scheme is really a self-contradiction, if I may say so. It will work havoc like the system of toddy sales. My friend proposes to distribute the roads among as many people. In theory, that is the policy pursued in regard to toddy sales. Each shop is sold by itself, but when there is a powerful man, you have the spectacle that he takes all the shops in a large area, thereby having a monopoly to the misfortune of the drinking public. There is another method, Sir, which may be agreeable to Mr. Langley and bring in additional revenue, and that is the imposition of a vehicle tax on carts using the roads. No doubt, the objection may be raised that not all the carts in the country are using the roads and that they should not be indiscriminately taxed. If that objection holds good, we may restrict the imposition of the vehicle-tax on carts of villages which are within a certain distance on either side from roads. But then if this system is to be worked out at all, the co-operation of the Revenue department becomes very necessary. I regret to say, however, that, so far, that co-operation has not been forthcoming to any appreciable extent in regard to matters relating to the transferred side. For example, Sir, in my scheme, questions will arise as to who should fix the demand for the country vehicles. What is the agency again which should collect the taxes when imposed? Well, Sir, naturally one would think of the village establishment; but the Revenue department has control over them, and they say that such work of the transferred departments has nothing to do with them. The Revenue department is not prepared to allow its village establishments to do any service in regard to the Transferred departments. Take the Hindu Religious Endowments: if the village munsif collects the demands, the Board has got to pay a

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certain percentage to the Revenue department for its services. But if there is an increase in the amount of assessment on land, due to resettlement the same village establishments have got to collect the increased amount. Do they pay a higher amount to the village munsifs? No, Sir. Unless we have provincial autonomy, unless all the departments of Government are under one control, it is impossible to work out a scheme such as the one I have suggested. Therefore, Sir, it seems to me that we have to put up with the scheme of the Government before us.

" Here we have got an appeal, a printed appeal, circulated to us, on behalf of bus-owners. I do not know if that appeal has the approval and sanction of my hon. Friend. (Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan: ' No.') I am glad that it has not got his approval; because, if one analyses the figures submitted there, one sees that there is so much of absurdity in the arguments that have been advanced. It is stated, for example, that month after month, the bus-owners have been incurring a loss of Rs. 84–12–0. If that is the case now, when petrol is selling at Re. 1 a gallon, I do not know what should have been the condition when petrol was selling at a much higher rate. Could they have been making a profit then? The matter may be examined, how far are owners of buses being harassed? Sir, if any had really the interests of bus-owners at heart, I should have expected substantial evidence of it, much earlier. If one looks at the number of buses condemned by the Police authorities in the Madras City, and the new buses registered within the last year or two, what is the inference? It is obvious that a new policy has been initiated, viz., to register only new buses in the future. Have all the old buses suddenly become useless? When I see the numbers on the buses plying in the city, I am rather inclined to think that there is some point in the suggestions, express and implied, made by my hon. Friend Mr. Patnaik in regard to this matter.

" Sir, there is one way in which we can have the income from the buses and motor traffic increased. You have what is called the private lorries and buses. I want to know whether these private lorries and buses do not use the roads to the same extent as the other motor cars and buses do? What about the toddy lorries which travel scores of miles every day and cause any amount of damage to the roads? Why should they pay only a nominal tax? It seems to be hardly fair. If there is a move from the members on the other side that these so-called lorries should be put on the same footing as the ordinary buses, and the suggestion is approved by the Government we shall be getting more money and also giving some relief to the district boards. My point is this: we are faced with a very difficult position. The Government have considered it and they have hit upon an increasing licence fees as the best of many methods. But I should like to make it clear to the Hon. the Chief Minister that this proposed increase must only be a temporary measure. I should be very sorry indeed if we are going to make this a permanent imposition on the bus-owners.

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These are exceptional times, but having regard to our present finances, we may agree to this as a temporary measure. When conditions change and when better times come, I for one certainly would ask for a reversion to the old rate, if not for a reduction of the old rate itself. If that assurance is forthcoming from the Hon. the Minister that this is only a temporary expedient resorted to for meeting an unexpected situation this House may be inclined to oppose the resolution that has been tabled."

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—" Sir, the hon. Member representing the city who moved this adjournment motion, stated in his introductory remarks that, under G.O. No. 742, L. & M., dated 24th February 1936, the Government have increased the rates of taxation on motor buses as well as taxis. I may state for his information that the increase in tax refers only to class 4-B, namely, motor vehicles licensed to carry more than four persons. This recent increase in the tax does not at all affect the ordinary taxis plying in the city.

" As regards the main question of taxation, I may state for the information of hon. Members of this House that the present income from motor vehicles tax is about Rs. 36 lakhs, while the estimated revenue when tolls were abolished was Rs. 72,29,000. From this, it would be seen how seriously the finances of local boards have been affected by the legislation of 1931. I may state at the outset that this matter has not been decided by Government hastily, but after careful consideration and with due reference to the discussions on Mr. Birley's Bill in the August session of 1933. Before that Bill became an Act, in many districts, the average taxation on buses was from Rs. 2,000 to Rs. 3,000 per annum, while under this Bill, we have fixed the maximum at about Rs. 600 per annum.

" As hon. Members are no doubt aware, that Bill has met with serious opposition from all sides of this House and during the discussions I had to give an undertaking on behalf of the Government that, should there be a loss to the local boards as a result of the passing of the Bill, Government would be prepared to make good the loss to the extent possible by raising the provincial tax from Rs. 7–8–0 to a higher figure, the maximum allowable under the schedule being Rs. 10. In spite of that, the discussions go to show that there has been a considerable apprehension expressed on all sides of the House as to the further inroads we are making on the local board finances. It was calculated at that time that, apart from the loss of toll revenue, the losses to the district boards by fixing the maximum at Rs. 7–8–0 per seat per quarter would be about four to five lakhs of rupees. Now, under the recent notification issued by the Government, we have to raise the tax from Rs. 7–8–0 to Rs. 8–12–0 and expect to get about $3\frac{1}{4}$ lakhs per annum. From this it will be seen, if hon. Members take the position of taxation of the bus industry before this Bill was passed, what the position will be from 1st April when the new notification will come into force; and on balance it will be seen that the bus-owner

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still stands to benefit considerably and has really no cause for complaint. I hope, Sir, by my remarks I have shown that the argument that this has been a further increase of the present iniquitous taxation on motor buses, is not quite correct, because this increase has really to be taken with the position explained by me in connexion with the passage of that Bill during its various stages in this House and the undertaking given by me. Now, we are merely following up that undertaking, although I must admit that there has been some delay in *giving effect to those proposals. My hon. Friend, Mr. Ramalingam* Chettiyar, has suggested that in the place of the present system of taxation of buses, a better alternative would be to sell the right to ply buses on certain routes as a kind of monopoly by auction. There seem to be several objections to this course, the first being that as the law now stands, I believe, it will not be legal to give monopolies in the matter of these bus services. (A voice: 'You fix the number of buses in each route.') Of course the number of buses is fixed. I am perfectly *aware of it; but under the existing law and the rules framed thereunder,* can we empower the district magistrate to confer a monopoly on an individual or a company? That is my point. If the suggestion is that these monopolies should be sold—as an explanation, Mr. Ramalingam Chettiyar has stated that the suggestion also includes the proposal to fix timings and to fix the rates of fares—it would be rather an experiment attended with considerable risks as to the probable amount of revenue which we can expect by adopting these methods. Of course, recently, suggestions have also been made that district boards should not themselves be given the right of monopoly to run buses themselves. On this point, I may also state that if Mr. Ramalingam Chettiyar's proposal is to be accepted, it would certainly result not only in taking risks as to the finances of local boards but will result in further unemployment which I am sure the hon. the Mover of this motion would not like. I have been asked to state during the discussions, the grounds on which this increase is justified and why it should come now. I have stated that it is not a hasty measure, but that this is the result of the passing of Mr. Birley's Bill and I may also state that at present since that Bill was passed there has been an appreciable fall in the price of petrol. Of course no one can say whether this is going to be a permanent fall or not and I am prepared to admit it may be only temporary. I am afraid, Sir, that in the printed circular of the bus-owners they have really over-stated their case and I am sure such arguments would not really strengthen their hands, and if this industry, as is admitted by them, is to be run on such slender basis, I do not see it is worthwhile to encourage such an industry.

"As regards my hon. Friend Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar's suggestion for considering the question of fully taxing private lorries I have received similar suggestions from other quarters. Of course the difficulty has been about the definition of these vehicles which are termed as private and which are plying for hire. It has been stated that those

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vehicles which stop at regular places and carry goods at scheduled rates from place to place, are the only vehicles, under the present law and the rules, which can be termed as plying for hire and on that account private lorries and lorries used for trade and industry have not been included in that category. I shall give this assurance to my hon. Friend, that I shall carefully examine the question and I hope Government will be able to come to some decision in the near future. I believe, Sir, that my remarks clearly prove that, if you take all the circumstances into consideration, there can be no complaint of any unreasonable increase in the rate of provincial tax. Finally I may state that if from actual experience and in actual working these new rates are found to be a real hardship and would really drive the buses from the road, then it is always open to the Government to reconsider the rates of taxation, modify or revise them so as to meet the actual conditions of the case. I hope that in view of what I have said the hon. the Mover of the adjournment motion will not press it to a division."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—" It may be put to vote, Sir."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The question is that the business of the House be adjourned."

The motion was put and lost.

The House then adjourned to meet again at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, the 25th March 1936.

D. K. V. RAGHAVA VARMA,
Acting Secretary to the Legislative Council.

THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF THE GOVERNOR OF MADRAS.

Wednesday, the 25th March 1936.

The House met at eleven of the clock, Mr. President (the Hon. Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI) in the Chair.

PRESENT:

Reddi Nayudu, *Kt.*, the Hon. Rai Bahadur Sir K. V.
Pannirselvam, *The Hon. Rao Bahadur* A. T.
Souter, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., I.C.S., The Hon. Sir Charles.
Bracken, C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S., The Hon. Mr. G. T. H.
Raja of Bobbili, K.C.I.E., The Hon. the.
Rajan, The Hon. Mr. P. T.
Kumaraswami Reddiyar, The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S.
Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur.
Ahmed Meeran Sahib Bahadur, A. M.
Alamelumangathayaramma, Mrs. K.
Appadurai Pillai, Diwan Bahadur A.
Araso, Mr. V. T.
Ari Gowder, Mr. H. B.
Basheer Ahmed Sayeed Sahib Bahadur.
Basu Dev, Mr. C.
Beyabani Sahib Bahadur, S. M. K.
Dalavoi, Mr. R.
Devadasan, Mr. M.
Dharmalingam Pillai, Rao Sahib V.
Duraiswami Reddiyar, Mr. K. M.
Ellappa Chettiyar, Diwan Bahadur S.
Foulkes, Mr. G. F. F.
Gopalaswami Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur M.
Halasyam Ayyar, Mr. N.
Hood, C.I.E., I.C.S., Mr. H. M.
Indrayya, Mr. C.
Jagannatha Raju, Rao Bahadur G.
Jagannatham, Mr. H. M.
Jayaram Nayudu, Rao Sahib C.
Jones, I.C.S., Mr. C. E.
Kesavaramamurti Nayudu, Mr. K.
Kolanda Reddi, Rai Sahib C.
Koti Reddi, Mr. K.
Krishnamurti, Rao Bahadur D.
Langley, Mr. W. K. M.
Madanagopal Nayudu, Mr. R.
Manikkavelu Nayakar, Mr. M. A.
Moidon Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur T. M.
Moses, Mr. P. C.
Muhammad Meera Ravuttar Bahadur, K. P. V. S.
Muniswami Pillai, Rao Sahib V. I.
Nachiyappa Gounder, Mr. K. A.
Nanjappa Bahadur, Rao Bahadur Subadar-Major S. A.
Narasa Reddi, Mr. T.
Narasimhaswami, Rao Sahib D. V.
Narayanan Nambiyar, Mr. V. P.
Natesa Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur C.
Obi Reddi, Mr. C.
Palat, Mr. R. M.
Patro, K.C.I.E., Rao Bahadur Sir A. P.
Pattagar of Palayakottai, The.
Peddi Raju, Mr. P.
Pocker Sahib Bahadur, B.
Premayya, Mr. G. R.
Rajagopala Pillai, Mr. P. V.
Raja of Khallikote, The.
Ramachandra Padayachi, Mr. P. K.
Ramakrishna Reddi, Mr. A.
Ramalingam Chettiyar, Diwan Bahadur T. A.
Ramamurti, Rao Sahib Pandit Ganala.
Raman Menon, Mr. K. P.
Ramaswami Ayyar, Mr. T. S.
Rameswara Rao, Mr. G.
Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. G.
Ranganatham, Mr. N.
Rangaswami Reddi, Mr. M. B.
Ratnavelu Thevar, Mr. P.
Reid, Mr. D. M.
Rukmani Lakshmipathi, Mrs. A.
Russell, I.C.S., Mr. T. B.
Schamnad Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur Mahmud.
Scott Brown, I.C.S., Mr. W.
Shetty, Mr. A. B.
Simhachalam Pantulu, Mr. G.
Siva Raj, Rao Sahib N.
Smith, Mr. J. M.
Sreshta, Mr. M. S.
Srinivasan, Diwan Bahadur R.
Sriramulu, Mr. G.
Subbarayan, Dr. P.
Subrahmanya Bhatt, Mr. U. C.
Sundara Rao Nayudu, Mr. T.
Syed Tajudin Sahib Bahadur, Khan Sahib.

PRESENT—*cont.*

Thangal, Mr. P. M.
Uzielli, C.I.E., I.C.S., Mr. H. R.
Vasudeva Pillai, Mr. V. G.
Venugopal Nayudu, Rao Bahadur R. K.
Wright, Sir William.
Yahya Ali Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur.
Yakub Hasan Sahib Bahadur.
Zamindar of Bodinayakkanur, The.
Zamindar of Chemudu, The.
Zamindar of Kirlampudi, The.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS

Prisons and Prisoners

Progress of the trial of the accused in the Cocanada Conspiracy Case.

* 1014 *Q.*—Mrs. A. Rukmani Lakshmipathi: Will the Hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) the length of time taken up by the Cocanada Conspiracy Case before the Committing Magistrate and the Sessions court;

(*b*) how many of the accused were convicted by the Sessions Judge, for what offences, and the sentences awarded to each accused for each offence;

(*c*) whether the accused appealed to the High Court against their conviction;

(*d*) the length of time taken for the hearing of the appeals before the High Court; and

(*e*) the result of the appeals?

A.—(*a*) The time taken by the case before the Committing Magistrate and the Sessions court was from 11th May 1933 to 9th December 1933 and from 9th December 1933 to 21st April 1934, respectively.

(*b*) The information is furnished below:—

Names of the accused.

(1) Kakarala Kameswara Sastri alias Kameswararao of Samalkot.

(2) Chilakamarri Narasimhachari of Cocanada.

(3) Appanaboyina Sundaram of Samalkot.

(4) Challa Apparao of Peddapur.

(5) Vadlamani Sriramamurti of Indupalli.

(6) Chilakamarri Satyanarayanachari of Kota.

(7) Nanduri Narasimhachari of Kota.

(8) Prativadibhayankara Venkatachari alias Bhayankarachari of Samalkot.

(9) Origanti Ramachandrayya of Nellore.

Offences.

(*a*) Against all the accused.

Conspiracy with attempt to undermine the Government established by law in British India, and the collecting of unlicensed fire arms, the manufacturing of bombs, the committing of dacoities and robberies, the assassination of Government officials, punishable under section 120 (*b*) of the Indian Penal Code.

(*b*) Against the accused 1, 2 and 8.

Possession of explosive substances with intent to endanger life or cause injury to property in British India or to enable others by means thereof to endanger life or cause serious injury to property, punishable under section 4 (*b*) of the Explosive Substances Act VI of 1908.

(*c*) Against the accused 1, 2 and 8.

Aiding and abetting each other in the commission of an offence of making or being in possession or having under their control an explosive substance with intent to endanger life or cause serious injury to life or property, an offence punishable under section 6 of the Explosive Substances Act VI of 1908.

(*d*) Against the accused 1, 3 and 8.

Possession and control of unlicensed fire arms and ammunition, punishable under section 19 (*f*) of the Indian Arms Act XI of 1878.

Finding of the Judge.

Accused 1 to 9 guilty under section 120 (*b*) read with section 115, Part I, of the Indian Penal Code, under the first charge.

Accused 1, 2 and 8 guilty under section 4 (*b*) of the Explosive Substances Act under the second charge.

Accused 1, 2 and 8 guilty under section 6 of the Explosive Substances Act under the third charge.

Accused 1, 3 and 8 guilty under section 19 (*f*) of the Indian Arms Act XI of 1878 under the fourth charge.

Sentence and order.

Accused 1 to 9 sentenced to rigorous imprisonment for three years each and a fine of Rs. 100 each with three months rigorous imprisonment in default under the first charge.

Accused 1 and 2 sentenced to rigorous imprisonment for seven years each and the eighth accused to transportation for fourteen years under the second charge.

Accused 1 and 2 sentenced to seven years rigorous imprisonment each and the eighth accused to transportation for fourteen years under the third charge.

Accused 1, 3 and 8 sentenced to rigorous imprisonment for two years each under the fourth charge.

The sentences to run concurrently.

(*c*) Yes.

(*d*) The appeals were heard on the following dates:—

August 1935—6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 12th, 13th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 23rd, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th and 30th.

September 1935—3rd, 4th and 26th (date of delivery of judgment).

(*e*) The convictions and sentences passed upon accused 2 to 7 and 9 were set aside. They were acquitted and set at liberty.

The conviction and sentence passed upon A-1 and A-8 for the offence of conspiracy under section 120 (*b*) of the Indian Penal Code were set aside, but their convictions for the offences under section 4 (*b*) of the Explosive Substances Act and section 19 (*f*) of the Indian Arms Act were upheld. They were ordered to undergo rigorous imprisonment for four and seven years respectively for convictions under the Explosive Substances Act and rigorous imprisonment for two years each for convictions under the Arms Act; the sentences to run concurrently.

Fines, if paid, were ordered to be refunded.

Investigation of the Cocanada Conspiracy Case by the Criminal Intelligence Department.

* 1015 *Q.*—Mrs. A. Rukmani Lakshmipathi: Will the Hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) when the charge sheet in the Cocanada Conspiracy Case was filed, by whom, against how many persons, and what were the charges included;

(*b*) whether legal advice was taken before the charge sheet was filed;

(*c*) whether officers of the C.I.D. from Madras were deputed to investigate the case, and if so, what their conclusion was; and

(*d*) whether one of the charges was that the accused conspired to kill Khan Bahadur Mustapha Ali Khan, Deputy Superintendent of Police?

A.—(*a*) The hon. Member is referred to the answer given to clause (*b*) of the Legislative Council question No. 1014. The charge-sheets in the case were filed against accused 1 to 8

on 11th May 1933 and against accused 9 on 5th July 1933, by the Inspector of Police, Cocanada Circle.

(*b*) No.

(*c*) Yes.

(*d*) The hon. Member is referred to the answer to clause (*b*) of the Legislative Council question No. 1014 giving in detail the offences for which the accused were charged.

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—" May I know, Sir, with reference to clause (*c*), what the conclusion of the C.I.D. officers from Madras who investigated the case was? "

The Hon. Sir K. V. REDDI NAYUDU:—" It is a confidential report, Sir."

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—" May I know, Sir, whether the report was against the lodging of the complaint? "

The Hon. Sir K. V. REDDI NAYUDU:—" I have been too long at the bar, Sir, to fail in such cross-examinations."

Alleged delay in the release of the accused acquitted in the Cocanada Conspiracy Case.

* 1016 *Q.*—Mrs. A. RUKMANI LAKSHMIPATHI: Will the Hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) the date of the judgment of the High Court in the Cocanada Conspiracy Case;

(*b*) the jail or jails in which the accused who were acquitted by the High Court were respectively confined on that date, and the names of the Superintendents thereof on that date;

(*c*) the date or dates on which each of the acquitted accused was released from jail; and, if there was any delay, the reasons therefor;

(*d*) whether it is a fact that letters addressed by their relations to the acquitted accused, intimating to them the fact of their acquittal, were not delivered to them by the Superintendents concerned; and, if so, why;

(*e*) whether it is a fact that money orders sent to the acquitted accused to provide for their comforts and conveniences after release, were refused by the Superintendents concerned; and, if so, why; and

(*f*) whether the orders of acquittal were communicated by the High Court to the respective Superintendents of Jails direct or through some other channel; and the date or dates thereof?

A.—(*a*) 26th September 1935.

(*b*) & (*c*) A statement [a] is appended in respect of six of the prisoners. The seventh prisoner (C. Narasimhachari) was prematurely released on medical grounds on 19th August 1935.

[a] Printed as Appendix I on page 912 infra.

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(d) The answer to the first part of the question is that no letters were received and the second part does not arise.

(e) In the Central Jail, Vellore, one money order addressed to a prisoner was received after he was released and it was refused with an endorsement to that effect. No other money order was received or refused.

(f) The orders of acquittal were despatched to the Superintendents of Jails direct on 26th September 1935.

Classification of the Cocanada Conspiracy Case prisoners.

* 1017 *Q.*—Mrs. A. Rukmani Lakshmipathi: Will the Hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) the respective classes in which the several accused in the Cocanada Conspiracy Case were placed in the jails after their conviction by the Sessions Judge;

(b) whether one of them, the second accused, was a student studying in the Intermediate class before his arrest in the case, whether his health did break down in jail, and whether he had to be removed to the General Hospital at Madras; and

(c) the respective weights of the several acquitted accused at the time of their admission to jail, and at the time of their discharge after acquittal?

A.—(a) Of the nine accused in the case, Chella Appa Rao (accused 4) and Origanti Ramachandrayya (accused 9) were placed in 'B' Class, the rest were placed in 'C' Class.

(b) Chilakamarri Narasimhachari of Cocanada, the second accused in the case, was a student before his conviction. He fell ill in the Central Jail, Cannanore. He was transferred to the Government General Hospital, Madras, and was then released on medical grounds.

(c) A statement is placed on the table.

Serial number and name of acquitted accused in the Cocanada Conspiracy Case.	Weight on admission in lb.	Weight on release in lb.
(1)	(2)	(3)
1 Chilakamarri Narasimhachari of Cocanada ..	87	64
2 Appanaboyina Sundaram of Samalkota ..	97	98
3 Chella Appa Rao of Peddapur	103	102
4 Vadalamani Sriramamurthi of Indupalli ..	118	115
5 Chilakamarri Satyanarayanachari of Kota ..	111	114
6 Nanduri Narasimhachari of Kota	128	119
7 Origanti Ramachandrayya of Nellore ..	112	114

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Land Revenue Administration

Lack of particulars in the revenue pattas issued at the annual jamabandi

* 1018 *Q*.—Mr. N. Halasyam Ayyar: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether revenue pattas are issued at the annual jamabandi to ryots who ask for them; and

(*b*) whether in the pattas now issued the particulars of village account No. 10, part 2, are being omitted, thereby keeping the ryot ignorant about the amounts due by him to the Government under the heads of tirwajasti, sivayijama, faslijasti, etc.; if so, what is the reason for such omission of particulars?

A—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Section II of the form of patta (Form No. 11 in the revised forms of village accounts) has been deleted under the orders issued by the Board of Revenue in November 1932. This section was merely a copy of section II of village account No. 10. The particulars contained in section II of account No. 10 will be furnished to the registered-holder on application.

Rates of remission granted vis-a-vis *the prices of paddy in Trichinopoly during the years* 1933–36.

* 1019 *Q*.—Mr. N. Halasyam Ayyar: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state the prices of new paddy prevailing at harvest in the Trichinopoly district in February 1933, 1934, 1935 and February 1936 and the rates of remission granted in each of these years on account of the fall in the price of paddy?

A.—A statement showing the retail price of paddy in the Trichinopoly district in February 1933, 1934, 1935 and 1936 is given below:—

Year.	Price per maund.
	RS.
1933	2·2
1934	2·1
1935	2·5
1936	2·5

The rates of remission of wet assessment granted for the Trichinopoly district are as follow:—

Fasli.	Rate per rupee of assessment. RS.	A.	P.
1342	0	2	0
1343	0	2	0
1344	0	1	9
1345	0	1	9

Collection of irrigation-cess from the inamdars of Sattamangalam village, Lalgudi taluk.

* 1020 *Q.*—Mr. N. HALASYAM AYYAR: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether a sum of Re. 0–5–8 is being collected from the inamdars on account of irrigation-cess in Sattamangalam village, Lalgudi taluk, Trichinopoly district, and, if so, for what purpose; whether no such cess is being collected from the ryotwari landholders;

(*b*) whether the amount so collected is credited to separate fund in the Government accounts and, if so, how it has been spent all along; and

(*c*) whether such cess is collected from the inamdars in any other village of the same taluk or district, and if so, what amounts have been so collected and how they have been spent?

A.—(*a*) *to* (*c*) The Government have not the information asked for.

Mr. N. HALASYAM AYYAR:—" Will the Government be pleased to call for the information? "

The Hon. Sir CHARLES SOUTER:—" I think the hon. Member will get it quicker from the Collector."

Holidays

Proposal to modify G.O. No. 1472, Law (General), dated the 2nd May 1924, regarding holidays in the case of mufassal civil courts.

* 1021 *Q.*—Mr. C. R. PARTHASARATHI AYYANGAR: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) why Thursday, 9th April 1936, and Tuesday, 14th April 1936, are not holidays for mufassal civil courts whereas they are observed as holidays in other public offices in the mufassal; and

(*b*) whether the Government have considered the question of so modifying G.O. No. 1472, Law (General), dated 2nd May 1924, as to introduce uniformity in all places?

A.—(*a*) This is based on the recommendation of the Judicial Retrenchment Committee, 1923, to the effect that in view of the fact that the mufassal civil courts enjoy a vacation and therefore are better off than other Government offices, the Easter holidays for the former should be reduced to Good Friday and the Saturday following it.

(*b*) No.

Local Self-Government

Revision of the scale of pay of the secretaries of district boards.

* 1022 *Q.*—Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is proposed to raise the scale of pay of the secretaries of the district boards;

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(*b*) whether the new scale is to apply only to future incumbents; and

(*c*) what, if any, are the qualifications prescribed or intended to be prescribed for future secretaries?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) The matter is under consideration.

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—" With reference to the answer to clause (*b*), may I know why the new scale would be made applicable only to future incumbents? "

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—" That is because of the higher status."

Formation of committees in district boards as per the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920.

* 1023 *Q.*—Diwan Bahadur M. GOPALASWAMI MUDALIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state in how many district boards have the committees been formed as contemplated by the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920?

A.—A statement [a] furnishing the information so far as it is available is placed on the table.

Audit of the accounts of the Panchayat Boards.

* 1024 *Q.*—Mr. M. S. SRESHTA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there is any system of audit in the Panchayat Board; if so, what system is in force and whether audit is being done regularly every year;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that there is considerable misappropriation of money in certain panchayat boards; and

(*c*) whether it is a fact that there is defalcation in Kanyur and Mogra Panchayat Boards?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

The concurrent system of voucher audit is in force in regard to panchayats which were union boards on 25th August 1930. The revenue and stores accounts of these panchayats are audited locally every year by the staff of the District Inspector of Local Fund Accounts.

The accounts of receipts and expenditure of such of the panchayats as were not union boards on 25th August 1930 are audited by the officers of the Revenue Department. Annual audit is done only in respect of bigger panchayats selected every year for the purpose.

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[a] Printed as Appendix II on page 912 infra.

(b) Out of 350 ex-union panchayats the accounts of which were examined for the year 1934–35, cases of temporary misappropriation of funds were noticed in ten cases. In the case of pre-panchayat boards misappropriation of funds was suspected only in two cases.

(c) No.

Restrictions on the panchayat boards regarding expenditure on their establishment.

* 1025 *Q.*—Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state whether the Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards has issued a circular that the establishment of a panchayat board should not exceed 10 per cent of its normal income and that the establishment includes scavengers, sweepers, lamp-lighters, engine drivers, etc., besides office clerks, bill collectors and peons and, if so, whether the instructions contained in the above circular have the authority of the Government?

A.—The power of fixing the strength and scales of pay of the establishments of panchayat boards has been delegated to the Inspector and the circular referred to in the question has apparently been issued by virtue of that power.

Sanitary Engineering

Functions and jurisdiction of the Chief Sanitary Engineer and the Deputy Sanitary Engineer.

* 1026 *Q.*—Mr. M. B. Rangaswami Reddi: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) the jurisdiction of each of the Chief and the Deputy Sanitary Engineers; and

(b) the total amount of travelling allowances drawn and the number of places visited and the nature of work done by each of them during 1934–35?

A.—(a) The jurisdiction of the Deputy Sanitary Engineer, Northern Circle, comprises the following districts:—

(1) Ganjam.
(2) Vizagapatam.
(3) Godavari, East.
(4) Godavari, West.
(5) Kistna.
(6) Guntur.
(7) Nellore.
(8) Chittoor.
(9) Cuddapah.
(10) Kurnool.
(11) Bellary.
(12) Anantapur.

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All the remaining districts except Chingleput and Madras form the jurisdiction of the Deputy Sanitary Engineer, Southern Circle. The Sanitary Engineer's jurisdiction extends over the whole presidency. In addition, he has the full charge of the districts of Chingleput and Madras.

(b) (i) The total amount of travelling allowance drawn during the year 1934–35 by the respective officers are as follows:—

	RS.	
(1) Sanitary Engineer.	2,891	(Both for tours made as Sanitary Engineer and as officer in charge of the office of Deputy Sanitary Engineer, Northern Circle, for about 6½ months.)
(2) Deputy Sanitary Engineer, Northern Circle.	383	(For about 5½ months when he was on duty; the Sanitary Engineer was in charge of the office for the remaining 6½ months.)
(3) Deputy Sanitary Engineer, Southern Circle.	1,468	(For the whole year.)

(ii) The number of places inspected during 1934–35 by each officer is as below:—

By the Sanitary Engineer 43

By the Deputy Sanitary Engineer, Northern Circle 4

By the Deputy Sanitary Engineer, Southern Circle 45

(iii) The nature of work done by each officer is as follows:—

(1) *Sanitary Engineer.*—Periodical routine inspection of water-supply and drainage schemes in operation. Inspecting water-supply and drainage schemes under execution. Inspection of investigation works in progress under his own charge and special inspection for the disposal of references from Government and the local bodies.

(2) & (3) *Deputy Sanitary Engineers, Northern and Southern Circles.*—Periodical inspection of water-supply and drainage schemes in operation. Advising the local bodies with regard to miscellaneous sanitary works like markets, latrines, etc., inspection of places for formulating preliminary proposals for water-supply and drainage schemes and inspection of investigations in progress.

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Co-operation

Acceptance of honorary offices in co-operative societies by Government servants.

* 1027 *Q.*—Rao Sahib V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state whether the Sessions Judge at Ganjam, while acquitting the accused on 11th September 1935, expressed that Government servants in active employ must be prohibited from undertaking any honorary office in co-operative societies; if so, what action the Government propose to take to rescue Government employees from prosecutions?

A.—Yes. It is not possible to give effect to the suggestion of the District Judge.

Under the Government Servants' Conduct Rules, Government servants can accept office without the sanction of Government in societies composed wholly of Government servants, or partly of Government servants and partly of employees of local bodies; while the sanction of Government is necessary for them to accept office in other societies. In a society composed wholly of Government servants, etc., it is inevitable that some of them must accept office and be on the committee of management. Even if a paid officer is employed in such societies (which is not possible in very many societies of this class) the members of the committee of management have to perform certain duties according to the by-laws and are responsible for the administration of the affairs of societies. Government servants are as much in need of the benefits of co-operative societies as others. They cannot be deprived of these benefits simply for the reason that misappropriations have occurred in one or two such societies.

When Government servants accept office in other classes of societies the specific sanction of Government is obtained in each case. Government servants are allowed to serve on the committee of such societies only when their presence on the committee is considered necessary for the proper working of such societies. Such cases are exceptional.

Registration

Alleged irregularity in the registration of documents presented under section 145 (2) *of the Madras Estates Land Act,* 1908.

* 1028 *Q.*—Sriman M. G. PATNAIK Mahasayo: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that registering officers do not insist upon he presentation of notices in writing signed by the transferor and the ransferee and addressed to the landholder along with documents trans-'erring holdings or portions thereof presented for registration, as

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required by section 145 (2) of the Madras Estates Land Act of 1908, as amended by Madras Act VIII of 1934; and

(b) if so, why?

A.—(a) In all cases, except where the parties refuse to present notices of transfer, Sub-Registrars do obtain and transmit the notices in question.

(b) Circular instructions are being issued to all registering officers calling their attention to the terms of section 145 (2) of the Madras Estates Land Act, 1908, as amended by Madras Act VIII of 1934, and to their duty to see that the requirements of that section are complied with as a condition precedent to the registration of the documents mentioned therein.

Education

Different rates of travelling allowance to Deputy Inspectors of Schools and Junior Deputy Inspectors of Schools.

* 1029 Q.—Rao Sahib V. DHARMALINGAM PILLAI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that Deputy Inspectors of Schools and Junior Assistant Inspectors of Schools are allowed different rates of travelling allowance; and

(b) what the average mileage covered by each of the above class of officers per day is and on what basis their travelling allowance was fixed?

A.—(a) & (b) Deputy Inspectors of Schools, Senior grade and Junior grade, except those referred to below [a] are paid travelling allowance as for journeys on tour and are eligible for the rates of allowance prescribed in Annexure I to the Madras Manual of Special Pay and Allowances, Volume I, Part II, according to the scales of pay they draw.

The Government have no information as to the average mileage covered per day by Deputy Inspectors.

Grants to aided elementary schools run by managers belonging to the depressed class.

* 1030 Q.—Rao Sahib V. DHARMALINGAM PILLAI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) the number of aided elementary schools run by depressed class managers in the city with their respective names;

[a] Deputy Inspectors of Schools, Senior grade, employed in the City of Madras and the Deputy Inspector of Schools, Senior grade, Muhammadan range.

(b) how many of them are free schools and how many charge fees from pupils;

(c) whether any and, if so, what difference is made in distributing grants by the District Educational Council between a free school and the one that charges fees from pupils;

(d) whether it is a fact that Subbarayan's Free Elementary school, Mulakothalam, was getting a cent per cent grant on the assessed amount for several years and whether during the last four years, the grant has been reduced to 60, 50, 40 and 30 per cent year after year; and

(e) why schools run by depressed class managers are not given cent per cent grant?

A.—(a) Four. The following are the details:—

Name of the school.	Name of the manager.
Dravida Free School, Nungambakkam.	M.R.Ry. Rao Bahadur M. C. Rajah Avargal, M.L.A.
P. Venkatachalam Poor School, No. 24, Waller's Road, Narasingapuram.	M.R.Ry. P. V. S. Kumaravelu Avargal.
Adi-Dravida Charity School, No. 1/28, Thayar Sahib street, Kalimancheri, Mount Road.	M.R.Ry. C. A. Viswalingam Pillai Avargal.
B. Subbarayan Elementary School, Cockrane Basin Road, Mulakothalam.	M.R.Ry. S. Mathuraimuthu Avargal.

(b) All are free schools.

(c) No difference is made, since grants are based on the qualifications of teachers and the number of teachers required.

(d) After 1932–33 in view of the paucity of funds and also in view of the amendment to the rules under the Elementary Education Act issued in 1932 restricting the assigned grants to 50 per cent in excess of the assessed grants grants have had to be reduced for all schools.

(e) Schools managed by members of the depressed classes are not treated differently from other schools in the matter of grants.

Excise

Selection of Excise Sub-Inspectors made by the Madras Services Commission in February 1936.

* 1031 Q.—Mr. M. DEVADASAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether there was a selection of Excise Sub-Inspectors by the Public Services Commission in February 1936; and

(b) if so, how many of them belonged to the scheduled classes and how many of them to Indian Christians?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Out of the 27 candidates selected in February 1936, one belonged to the scheduled classes and five to the Indian Christian and Anglo-Indian Communities.

No applications were received from members of the scheduled classes for the two vacancies reserved for them in the Waltair and Trichinopoly subdivisions for which candidates were selected in February. The two vacancies were therefore given to members of the Muhammadan and the Non-Brahman Hindu communities.

Medical Administration

Economies effected by the Lay Secretary appointed for the Madras City hospitals.

* 1032 *Q.*—Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that an officer called the Lay Secretary has been appointed by the Government to effect economy in the medical department and hospitals in Madras City; if so, will the Hon. Minister be pleased to state what his name, his salary, and the date from which he has been entertained;

(*b*) what is the economy he has effected since the date he was appointed and whether the saving effected is commensurate with the money spent; and

(*c*) what action have the Government taken or propose to take in the matter?

A.—(*a*) Yes. Lieut.-Col. H. G. Dyer, R.A.V.C. (Retired), was appointed as Lay Secretary for the Government City Hospitals and the King Institute, Guindy, on a salary of Rs. 750 per mensem. He took charge on 17th July 1935.

(*b*) & (*c*) The officer has submitted a report which is under consideration.

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—" May I know, Sir, whether this Lay Secretary is a medical man? "

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" He is a retired Colonel."

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—" May I know as to whether he works in consultation with the heads of the departments or not? "

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" He is not working now."

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—" May I know whether he is there because of his knowledge in the maintenance of accounts? "

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" I can't say that."

Mr. V. T. ARASU :—" What is the idea in appointing the officer as Lay Secretary? Is it to keep proper accounts? "

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR :—" As I said, he is no longer in service. I do not know what purpose will be served by examining the question now."

Mr. V. T. ARASU :—" May I know whether there is any provision in the budget for continuing that officer? "

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR :—" The Hon. Member can find that out for himself."

Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR :—" Has the report been considered since the answer was given? "

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR :—" No, Sir."

[*Note.*—**An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.**]

II.—*BUDGET FOR 1936-37—VOTING OF DEMANDS FOR GRANTS.*

DEMAND XIX—MEDICAL—RESERVED AND TRANSFERRED—*cont.*

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The discussion on the Medical Demand will continue."

* The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR :—" Mr. President, Sir, the hon. Member, Mr. Premayya, who started the discussion on this demand has made, if he would permit me to say so, a very interesting and comprehensive survey of the work of the Medical department in combating the various diseases prevalent in this Presidency. He gave credit to the department where he thought good work was being done and criticised them wherever he considered that the work was not satisfactory. With many of his comments and criticisms, I may say that I am in agreement. I will make only a few observations to supplement what he said in connexion with the activities of this department.

" About leprosy relief he thought it was a matter for satisfaction that the work had been taken up in earnest by the Government and under the Chief Leprosy officer good work was being done. I may be permitted to say, Sir, that contributions are expected from His Majestey's Silver Jubilee Fund for this leper relief work and I hope with the help of these contributions work in this direction will to some extent be even extended more than before.

" As regards tuberculosis he complained of the inadequate attention paid by the Government. The history of the tuberculosis hospital in Madras has been told by the Hon. Ministers who were in charge of the portfolio on more occasions than one in this House. Government were prepared to construct an up-to-date hospital on the Spur Tank and rough estimates were prepared at one time. But the Corporation objected to the location of the hospital in that place and so it had to

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be given up. Various proposals were from time to time considered by the Government; disagreement with the Corporation about the suitability of the site selected stood among other causes in the way of the Government undertaking the building of the hospital. In addition to the financial stringency which makes it difficult for the Government to undertake such costly schemes there is this difficulty with regard to the site also. But hon. Members would have known by this time that the Government are proposing to take over the sanatorium of Dr. Muthu. This is intended to accommodate patients in very early stages of the disease or in convalescent stages. It will provide for about 40 patients and I think when this is taken up by the Government and when it is properly equipped and staffed the congestion at the present hospital at Royapettah will to some extent at least be relieved.

"Another complaint was heard from hon. Members that the Government were not so liberal with regard to the subsidising of rural dispensaries as they were in the past. It is no doubt true that they are not in a position to extend work in this direction. But as the Hon. the Chief Minister pointed out on previous occasions before this House it is necessary to make a correct review of the work that has been done so far by these rural dispensaries. As in the case of elementary education we should not commit here also the folly of quantitative instead of qualitative expansion. As he pointed out, Sir, there are several dispensaries in which the daily attendance has been found to be about 10 or 12. But on this ground the Government have not given up the policy of subsidising these rural dispensaries as they would find provision has been made in the next year's budget also on almost the same scale as in the previous years. I may mention in this connexion that the number of dispensaries in which treatment in Indian medicine is given is gradually increasing. In the current year's budget there was a provision of Rs. 2,83,500 for subsidies to medical practitioners and midwives in rural dispensaries. Hon. Members of course know that some of these dispensaries have now gone over to the Orissa Province and so a decrease in the provision will naturally be expected. But still the provision made in the budget is not much below the provision during the current year. The provision is 2,18,200 rupees. There are about 500 dispensaries which are subsidized by Government. With regard to Indian medicine Rs. 47,500 was provided in the budget estimate for 1935–36. But in the course of the year this estimate was revised and in the revised estimate an increased provision of Rs. 51,000 has been made. But in the next year's budget, i.e., for 1936–37 the provision made is Rs. 49,500 in spite of the fact that three institutions under this head have gone over to the new province. I would therefore, submit, Sir, that in spite of the financial stringency that is still continuing the provision that has been made for rural dispensaries either for giving treatment in Western medicine or Eastern medicine has not been decreased by Government and when financial conditions improve more liberal subsidies will be given for this purpose than during the past few years.

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" One point which has been made by Mr. Shetty and some others is that though honorary officers are now being employed by the Government in the hospitals under their control the amount of salaries for officers has not shown corresponding decrease. I think, Sir, it is not correct to expect any corresponding fall in the pay bill because a certain number of officers are doing honorary work. In the first place, I should like to point out that these honorary officers are only part-time people working in the hospitals in which they are employed only for two hours. It will therefore be incorrect to base any conclusions on the mere number of people who are employed as honorary officers. If this system had not been brought into operation by the Government the pay bill would have enormously increased during the last few years and such an increase would be perfectly justifiable considering the increased amount of work that has been done in the various hospitals."

Mr. V. T. Arasu:—" *Increase in the number of officers or number of beds?* "

-15 * The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar:—" If my
m. hon. Friend will just wait for a minute, he will hear me speak on the matter. When I speak of the increase in the work in the hospitals, I mean that the increase was in the number of patients and in the number of beds. It was about the year 1928 that this policy of appointing honorary officers was first introduced and if we take the figures for 1927 and 1934, I think they will be the proper data for comparison. In 1927, there were 8,349 beds and the number of in-patients was 170,966; the daily average number of in-patients was 7,389·7; the total number of out-patients was 1,452,954, the daily average being 65,341. This, as I said, was the state of things in the year 1927. In the year 1934, the number of beds increased to 10,658, and when I say that the number of beds increased to 10,658, I am referring to the sanctioned number of beds in each hospital. As hon. Members are aware, these beds having been found insufficient, verandas of hospitals are used for putting in a number of beds. That has not been taken into account in the figures which I mentioned about the beds. The total number of in-patients has however shown a very large increase, and it has gone up to 231,623, and the daily average number of in-patients is 10,387·5. The number of out-patients has increased to 1,606,374, the daily average being 109,704. So, it will be quite clear that there has been a very large increase in the number of in-patients and out-patients, and the volume of work must certainly have increased. The Surgeon-General has reported to the Government, when asked to examine this question with reference to the comments made by my hon. Friend, Mr. Arasu, last year, that the work has increased not merely in quantity but improved very much in quality also, and it must therefore be patent to those who have examined these figures that the strength of the medical staff should have been increased considerably if these honorary medical officers had not been appointed. I may also mention for the information of the Hon. House that quite recently a committee was appointed to go into the question of extending the system of appointing honorary

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physicians and surgeons. On the recommendation of that committee, the Government have now decided that honorary officers can be appointed in all hospitals and dispensaries either in the city or in the mufassal where there is a daily average attendance of 100 or more patients. They are also considering the question whether honorary officers who are working in hospitals attached to a medical college or school cannot also be allowed to work in the educational institutions as honorary officers being paid only a small allowance. That question is under consideration. But the Government have however come to the conclusion that the time is not yet ripe to put these honorary officers in entire and independent charge of hospitals or dispensaries. The experiment has been under trial only for a short time, and it will not be safe to go to the extent of placing honorary officers in entire charge of any hospital or dispensary. Hon. Members will therefore realize that in hospitals and dispensaries where there is only one medical officer, if another honorary officer is appointed, that cannot possibly reduce the expenditure under staff. The salaried officer would have to continue, though he will get some relief and the patients will get better attention by the appointment of an honorary officer. So, I am afraid, if hon. Members expect any immediate reduction in the pay bill of the medical staff, they are making a mistake. But if the present policy is continued and extended as Government desire to do, the time will soon come when there will be considerable savings which may be used for the better equipment of hospitals and for the construction of more hospitals in the Presidency.

" My hon. Friend, Mr. Shetty, referred to the fact that the provision made for the treatment of venereal diseases was not adequate. We heard with pain from the hon. Gentleman that in respect of the incidence of venereal diseases our province was about the second worst in the whole country. Of course, it is quite necessary to make proper provision. But I may say that the Surgeon-General in his Triennial Report has also referred to the fact and has lamented the large incidence of venereal disease in this province. So, he is not unaware of it, and he is not unmindful of the requirements in this direction. We are making larger provisions from year to year. There are about 19 clinics now, which are treating venereal diseases, and it is proposed to have a venereal block in the Rayapuram Hospital, and the new venereal block which has been built in the General Hospital must I think by this time have been occupied.

" My hon. Friend, Mr. Arasu, complained that provision was being made for an additional sub-assistant surgeon for doing venereal work in the Rayapuram Hospital and that it was a needless provision as there were already two officers who are doing the work. I am afraid my hon. Friend is making a mistake when he says that a sub-assistant surgeon is being appointed for this venereal work. The staff that is being provided for for the new venereal block is non-medical staff. The additional sub-assistant surgeon for whom provision is made in the budget is not for the venereal department. I am afraid there has

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been some confusion in the mind of my hon. Friend on this matter, and I may say that it is not for venereal work that the sub-assistant surgeon is appointed. It may be, as he says, that in the venereal section no additional sub-assistant surgeon is required. But the Surgeon-General has complained that the two sub-assistant surgeons who are now working in the out-patients department are not enough to cope with the ever increasing work in that hospital. So the Government thought that at least one more sub-assistant surgeon must be given, and the Finance Committee have agreed to that proposal, and so provision is made in the budget. With regard to the treatment of venereal diseases also, Government, as I said, are aware of the need for making further provision, and therefore within the limited finances available now, we are making the utmost possible provision.

"My hon. Friend, Mr. Arasu, also said that the appointment of an assistant lecturer which was provided for in the Lady Willingdon Medical School was not desirable. He said that it would be better to have a more qualified officer than the sort of officer whom the Government are intending to employ. I may say that the officer newly to be appointed is not going to be a lecturer. There is already a lecturer who is fully qualified and who is competent to do the work. But to give him some relief it is proposed to appoint an assistant lecturer. But, Sir, the whole question as to what additional staff or equipment or other facilities this school requires for becoming more popular and more successful than it has been till now, is now engaging the attention of the Government. My hon. Friend, Mr. Arasu, knows about it more than anybody else. So, when we are in possession of all the materials in connexion with that enquiry, the Government will take up the question of appointing people of as high a standard of efficiency as my hon. Friend, Mr. Arasu, has in view.

"My hon. Friend, Mr. Sehamnad, has stressed the point that lady doctors must be appointed, so that gosha ladies might have better attention. That is a point on which everybody will agree with my hon. Friend, and to the extent to which funds are available, lady doctors will be appointed in the women and children hospitals.

"My hon. Friend, Mr. Muniswami Pillai, made some complaints both with regard to the treatment of a lady patient in the Coimbatore hospital and with regard to the abolition of certain dispensaries in his own district. It is no doubt sad, Sir, that the lady patient who was admitted into the Coimbatore hospital met with her death in the circumstances mentioned by my hon. Friend. This matter was brought to the notice of the Government by the husband of that lady, and the Surgeon-General was asked to make a full enquiry into the matter, and the report made by him after a very careful and exhaustive enquiry disclosed that the allegations made against the medical officers of that hospital were at least not proved. Under those circumstances, it was not possible for the Government to take any action against those officers. But I hope my hon. Friend will agree with me when I say that the publicity given to the incident and the enquiry that has been made by the Surgeon-General would themselves have a very good effect

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and will generally prevent such improper conduct on the part of the officers in charge of hospitals. As regards the dispensaries which he referred to in his own district of Nilgiris, I may say that the district board has sent revised resolutions in respect of those dispensaries and the matter is under the consideration of the Government.

"My hon. Friend, Mr. Peddi Raju, complained that the head-quarters hospital for his place has not been built. Well, there are many others who have got the same complaint against the Government, and with regard to this hospital, as he himself has mentioned, an estimate was prepared at one time, and it had to be revised, and the revised estimate will, when it is ready, be considered by the Government, and when funds are available the work will be undertaken. I don't think there are any other points of importance mentioned by the hon. Members who have spoken on this cut motion. So, I hope in view of what I have said my hon. Friend, Mr. Premayya, will consider that the cut motion moved by him is not worth pressing."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—" Mr. Premayya is not in the House; evidently he has gone away on some other business. We have to put the cut motion to the vote of the House on account of his absence."

The cut motion [a] was put and lost.

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XX—PUBLIC HEALTH—TRANSFERRED.

* The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" Mr. President, Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I move—

' *that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs.* 24,29,400 *under Demand XX—Public Health—Transferred* '."

* Mr. V. T. ARASU:—" I move, Sir—

' *that the allotment of Rs.* 45,100 *for Public Health—Transferred —Direction—Pay of Officers be reduced by Rs.* 100.'

" Sir, in moving this cut motion I should like to draw the attention of the Minister to the fact that there is no co-ordination in the work of the Public Health department. Public health activities are being carried on, as you are doubtless aware, Sir, by more than three or four bodies in this Presidency. A certain portion of the activities is being carried on by the district boards, a certain other portion by the panchayat boards, a third portion by the Director of Public Health, and perhaps a fourth portion by the non-official public bodies in this Presidency. From my experience of the work and activities of the Public Health department I am constrained to remark that there is no co-ordination and co-operation in the matter of the work carried on by these four bodies. Therefore, I would strongly urge on the Minister to see that greater scrutiny and greater control is exercised in the matter by the Public Health department. As the House is aware lump sum grants are being made to these bodies for the purposes of rural sanitation, rural water-supply and the like. But on

[a] To reduce the allotment of Rs. 12,000 for Medical Establishments—Superintendence—Pay of Officers by Rs. 100.

account of the prevalence of party faction and internal strife in these local bodies, the moneys are not properly utilized, in many cases at any rate, and there is considerable waste in their expenditure. Therefore, I would suggest that this procedure of giving lump sum grants may be put an end to altogether and that the Public Health department may be called upon to take up the work and do it directly. I seriously suggest that these grants may be kept entirely in the hands of the Director of Public Health, and he and his assistants may be asked to go from place to place and find out the needs and requirements of the various villages and then spend the money on rural sanitation and water-supply.

"My Friend, Mr. Premayya, I think, made a few observations regarding the malaria work carried on by the Government of Madras. I think the Public Health Demand would be the proper occasion for us to make a few remarks on the malaria work carried on by this department. In this matter, I am constrained to say that there is not any efficient or systematized work. Anti-malarial work is now being carried on also through the agency of some of the local bodies, though there is supposed to be some sort of control and direction from the Director of Public Health. I propose that greater supervision and control should be exercised over the work of the malaria officers in charge of various district boards by the Director of Public Health.

"As regards digging of wells and water-supply to the villages, I should like that the Hon. Minister should come forward with a clear cut programme. Now some of the favoured villages and towns are enabled by means of grants to inaugurate water-supply schemes, whereas certain other villages where such improvements are more urgent are neglected altogether. Therefore, I would suggest the drawing up of a definite plan of work and a list of villages and towns in the order of their urgent need. As this House is aware the Hon. the Minister in charge of Local Self-Government came forward with a definite plan of work in regard to the development of roads in this Presidency. In the same manner I would suggest that the Minister in charge of Public Health should come forward with a definite plan and statement showing the list of villages and towns which are in need of water-supply schemes being inaugurated, and the House will then be in a position to suggest as to which of these schemes should be taken up immediately and which next in order. If that is done, some of the suspicions in certain quarters that Government are favouring certain villages and towns, in preference to others, will disappear.

"There is one point more, I should like to touch upon, and that is about the appointment of the Director of Public Health. I think for the past five or six years, every time this demand had come up before this House, hon. Members have pointed out to the Minister in charge how grave injustice has been done to an officer who legitimately should have been appointed as the Director of Public Health. It was also pointed out how the Anglo-Indian community in particular had been insulted, as was pointed out by my Friend, Mr. Davis, in this matter.

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I would request the Hon. Minister to go into the matter of this appointment and see if the Government of India could not be persuaded to permit this Government to appoint its own officer, an officer who knows the conditions of this Presidency and who would be in a position to inspire confidence in the people, instead of appointing an officer from some other Presidency who, from the very nature of things, will not be conversant with the conditions of the people and places in this Presidency. I therefore request the Hon. Minister to agitate and get autonomy in the matter of this appointment, and see if he cannot appoint Mr. Hesterlow as Director who was for a long time acting Director of Public Health and a man of great capacity. With these words I move the cut motion which I have read out to the House."

* Diwan Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR:—"Mr. President, Sir, I think of all the departments under Government, Public Health department is the most important. This department exists to prevent human beings suffering from any disease. It is only when a country is healthy, it can economically be benefited. Only if they are healthy agriculturists will produce more, industrialists will manufacture more, trade and commerce will market more, labourers and employees in various departments, Government and private, will work more, and the country will economically be raised. For this purpose I request the Hon. Minister to make every village and hamlet a health unit. Anti-smallpox campaign, anti-malaria campaign, anti-typhoid campaign, anti-plague and anti-cholera campaigns, should be begun in villages and hamlets. Latrine accommodation should be provided for in every village. Arrangements should be made for the removal of filth and disposal of sewage and for good supply of water in every village. In times of drought and in many cases in summer wells and tanks are dried up in various places. But we see the waters in our rivers are being wasted into the sea, and if these waters are dammed, they can be conserved in tanks and made available for not only one village, but many villages in this Presidency. Sir, one river, Kosathaliyar, about 17 miles from Madras, when it was dammed at Tambrambakkam, has been able to supply over 600,000 people in the city with potable water. So, I hope, instead of allowing the rivers to waste their waters into the sea, if they are dammed and the waters conserved in various tanks, tremendous advantage will be gained in the matter of water-supply. I appeal to the Hon. Minister to take that point into consideration first.

"Then, Sir, in the various departments of Government there are many people who are overworked. I have always said in this Council that if they work for eleven months, they should be compelled to take one month's leave. Now even fifteen days' leave is not allowed. If an experienced medical practitioner gives a certificate, what does the head of the department do? He sends him to the Civil Surgeon for further examination and countersignature. Sir, heads of departments ought not to do that. The man earns the leave; fifteen days' privilege leave he may take in a year and the rest he may allow to be accumulated 11— a.m

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and take later on a long leave previous to his retirement or even before that. In this connexion I would suggest that if a head of the department sends such a certificate to the Civil Surgeon to be countersigned, that head of the department should pay the fee for the countersigning Civil Surgeon.

"Now, Sir, as I said this department exists for preventing diseases; but here in the Secretariat itself clerks and officers, by overworking get diabetes which is a common disease among the clerks. In their fortieth year they get diabetes and before they retire they die. Sometimes they die in harness or a few months after retirement. The Hon. Minister should pay special attention to this.

"Then, Sir, there is the question of the medical inspection of school children. When the medical inspection of schools was going on, it was splendid. The diseases from which the children were suffering were detected and the diseases were nipped in the bud which would have enabled the children to grow into healthy giants. Now, that is gone. The Government stinted there and gave up this nation-developing scheme. I hope the Hon. Minister will put it into effect again. It is not necessary that there should be a M.B.B.S. or a diploma holder in Public Health for this work. Anybody can manage it. A L.M.P. or L.M.S. or a M.B.B.S. would quite do for examining the boys. It is much better that such a system is introduced once more and the country is benefited.

"As for the river Cooum, I do not know what the Public Health department are doing. They want us to be healthy and they do everything to make us unhealthy. Sir, there is foul smell emanating from the river. The silt has not been removed. I hope the Hon. Minister will make arrangements to have the silt removed. They can sell it as manure and recover the money they spend in removing the silt. Again there is the mosquito-breeding. On account of the insanitary condition of the river Cooum the whole city is suffering. I request the Hon. Minister to get the Public Health department to make the river sanitary.

"Then I must mention one grievance as regards the case of Mr. Hesterlow. He belongs to a very old family, a medical family too of Madras. He was well acquainted with the health and other conditions of the Presidency and he is not allowed to be even in this Presidency. I hope, as Mr. Arasu remarked, the Government will fight for autonomy and get back Mr. Hesterlow. I do not mean to say anything against the present Director of Public Health. I think one of our Presidency especially belonging to the Anglo-Indian community should be brought back and communal justice done.

"One more thing, Sir. There is the unemployment question. It is in times of famine, that epidemics arise on account of stinted food and starvation. People thus become devitalised and become liable to disease. It is the Hon. Minister for Public Health that should take care of the unemployed. He should see that every man born in this Presidency is fed well so that he may resist any disease to which he is

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"I once more request the Hon. Minister for Public Health to start this campaign in the villages. In many cases a single tank exists for a whole village and in that tank the men bathe, the cattle are washed; most probably the bullocks urinate and drop dungs into the water, men defecate on the banks and wash themselves in the tank and in the middle of it the ladies take water for drinking purposes, not to be boiled and drunk but to be drunk raw. Our Hon. Minister should therefore start the campaign in villages and then extend it to the towns and cities. Then we will be perfectly healthy. Sir, on the activities of the Hon. Minister for Public Health depend the health and prosperity of the whole Presidency. He is the chief man. He should be held responsible if any mishap occurs in our own Presidency."

* Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—"Mr. President, I am in entire agreement with the proposition put forward by my hon. and esteemed Friend, Dr. Natesa Mudaliyar, regarding the great importance of public health work. I consider that the Government should look upon public health work as more important than medical relief work. They ought to spend more money on this work than on medical relief. We find here, Sir, unfortunately that the Government are spending only 25 lakhs and odd for public health work whereas they are spending 94 lakhs on medical relief. A great deal of responsibility in regard to public health is entrusted to local bodies, but unfortunately, on account of limited funds they are not able to do anything substantial in this direction. We have not yet adequately provided for the elementary requirements of public health, such as protected water-supply, wholesome food, proper housing and efficient sanitation. We have no Public Health Act in this Presidency—an Act laying down the principles on which the development of public health should be based and giving power to the sanitary authorities to exercise proper and adequate control over such matters as adulteration of food, housing conditions and sanitation. In European and in many other countries public health administration has succeeded in eradicating to a great extent, many of the infectious diseases such as typhoid, leprosy and enteric fever. The prevention of epidemics, I regard as a secondary work of the Public Health department.

(At this stage, the Deputy President occupied the Chair.)

"The primary aim of this department ought to be to promote measures which tend to improve public health. Sir, ever since the establishment of the Ministry of Health in England in 1919, they have always insisted upon the improvement of nutrition as the fundamental factor in public health. People must have food in proper quantity, food of the right quality and food which is correctly balanced. This is the most important single factor which contributes to the health of the community. Sir, making experiments upon the food of the different peoples of this country, Col. McCarrison has come to the conclusion that the diet of the Sikhs in the Punjab is the most nutritious and that the Madrasee diet is the least nourishing, because the food of the Sikhs is essentially composed of whole wheat, chappathis, milk products and so on while we here eat milled rice which is white and

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polished having very poor nourishing qualities. Sir, the crowning glory of modern dietetic research is the discovery of vitamins. We are told to-day how the deficiency in vitamins leads to many diseases which are called deficiency diseases. Not only diseases like anæmia and ricketts, but even diseases like pneumonia and bronchitis are more common and much more fatal among the badly nourished children of the poorer classes than among the well-to-do classes, because the children who are badly nourished not only suffer from subnormal health and development, but they are also more susceptible to various diseases. Tuberculosis is also considered to be a poverty disease. Even maternal mortality is associated with mal-nutrition. Mothers who are poorly nourished are not able to bring forth healthy children and are more susceptible to the dangers associated with confinement. I think that the public health aspect of our food supply should receive proper consideration from Government. They must take steps to educate the community regarding the choice of suitable food and they must take care to safeguard food from deficiency in composition from adulteration and contamination. Among our people there is great ignorance regarding food values. This department ought to carry on a campaign to instruct the people as to what they should eat so as to get the maximum nourishment at minimum cost. In the Excise department we have the policy of maximum revenue and minimum consumption. In the Public Health department we ought to instruct the people about choosing the right kind of food, food which is properly balanced so that it will give the maximum nourishment at minimum cost.

"Maternity and child-welfare work is a work of primary importance for the improvement of public health. Sir, some progress has been made in this work, but we have only touched the fringe of the problem. Infantile mortality in our province has increased from 184 to 192 per thousand. It is nearly four or five times what it is in a country like England. Female death rate exceeds male death rate between the ages of 15 and 40 which is the age of child-bearing, while in other countries male death-rate exceeds female death-rate at all age-periods. Now, what is required is not merely ante-natal work, infant welfare work and improvement in midwifery work, but also measures for the limitation of families. Limitation of the number of births, with proper spacing, will go a great way to reduce the number of deaths of infants and to promote the health of mothers. No less an authority than Col. Russell, Public Health Commissioner of the Government of India has drawn pointed attention to the fact that birth control measures will save many of the infants now doomed to an early death and will result in reducing much of the suffering, illness and death which is the lot of thousands of mothers in this country. If this aspect of the question is kept in mind much of the controversy about birth-control will disappear, and its value as an important factor in preventive medicine will be recognized.

"For anti-malarial work we find that a large amount has been provided. Col. Russell says that the distribution of quinine will confer more benefit than any other anti-malarial work and we ought to

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provide larger quantities of quinine for distribution among malaria-stricken people in malarial areas. It is regrettable to see that the amount provided for free distribution of quinine has been reduced from Rs. 46,455 in the year 1934–35 to Rs. 38,000 in the next Budget.

" Before concluding, I wish to draw the attention of the Hon. Minister to the work done by the National Health Association in this City. This association has been doing a good deal of propaganda work by means of lantern lectures, cinema shows and in other ways. It has been supplementing, as Lady Marjorie Erskine was pleased to point out at an annual meeting, the efforts of the Government and it deserves aid from Government. Government were giving grants to this association till two years ago and afterwards they stopped without giving any reasons. In answer to a question of one of the hon. Members of this House the Hon. the Raja of Bobbili gave the assurance that this grant would be renewed in future. But I am sorry to find that no grant has been provided even in the next budget. I hope, Sir, the Hon. the Minister will kindly see whether he cannot help this association which is doing such good work in our midst."

* Rao Sahib V. I. Muniswami Pillai:—" Mr. Deputy President, Sir, it is admitted on all sides that the depressed class in cheris form an eyesore in the Presidency in the matter of health. On going through the report for the year 1934–35 I could not find any reference as to the activities of the Public Health department in the cheris. On page 26 of the Report, it is stated: ' There can be no doubt that considerable headway has been made in health propaganda in this Presidency; but it is too soon to assess its results.'

" Sir, wherever one goes, one finds that the sanitary condition of the depressed classes in cheris is not satisfactory. Health Officers, health inspectors and midwives are going about in districts, but has there been any definite policy on the part of the Government to do something to improve the condition of sanitation and health in these cheris? Sir, every year, the Labour department is getting a certain amount for sanitary purposes and district and panchayat boards also grant a certain amount, but there is no co-ordination between these bodies so that they might concentrate the work in a substantial way. I find that there has been only step-motherly treatment as far as improvements to the cheris are concerned. I request that the Hon. Minister who holds the portfolio of Education will see that, just like the educational officers who are asked to submit their reports every month regarding the number of depressed class children that are admitted into the schools, the officers of the Public Health department also are asked to point out in their reports the number of cheris they visited, their activities and so on. If this is done, I think it will go a great way to improve matters.

" Then, Sir, with regard to the question of water-supply, there is a lot of inconvenience caused to the people living in these cheris in rural parts. Unless the Government come forward and ear-mark a certain amount for water-supply to the depressed classes, their condition will

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become much worse. As we see, now-a-days there is a great move that untouchability is to be removed from the land. We ask for the bare necessity of water-supply which is now denied to most of the cheris. The women of the depressed classes have to stand by the side of wells and public tanks for hours together in order to get their quota of water-supply. So I am constrained to remark that the question of water-supply to the depressed classes has not been given that amount of consideration which ought to be given to it.

"One other point which I wish to bring to the notice of the Hon. Minister for Education is about the amount of grant made for temperance propaganda work. Though much was said when the Demand under Excise was being considered by this House, I do not know why the subsidies made to temperance associations are very poor. I must point out that according to the Administration Report of the Public Health department, the Government have been able to doll out only Rs. 527 against an allotment of about Rs. 1,000 in the previous year the reason being that these honorary public temperance associations have not been able to spend the amounts allotted in the previous year. The reason for these honorary associations not being able to take advantage of the grants made to them is that they are asked to follow certain strict rules contained in G.O. No. 1052, Public Health. According to those rules these honorary associations have to produce their receipts and submit their reports just a day after each quarter. Most of these associations are honorary bodies and they do not have offices of their own to conduct the business. They, honorary workers, themselves have to do it. So it is not possible for such associations to follow strictly those rules which are issued to them by the Government. I therefore hope that the Hon. Minister in charge will bring forward a supplementary grant for helping the cause of the temperance propaganda associations."

* Rao Bahadur Subadar-Major S. A. NANJAPPA Bahadur:—"Sir, Salem is a big place with a population of more than one lakh of people. It is a city now, but the water-supply is very meagre. The question of bringing water to Salem from Mettur Reservoir is being delayed. As I spoke on the demand for Irrigation—Cauvery-Mettur Project, the Government had not provided money for this purpose or that plans and estimates were not made ready by the Engineering department. This has made matters worse. Not only that. Salem is a dry place and on account of this dryness, the Panamaruthupatti tank which is the only source of supply of water is nearly dried up. Combined with this if the health of the town is not maintained it will bring cholera and other epidemics. There is a river called Tirumanimuttar river running in the heart of the town. It is not clean at all. All the sewage water of the town is let into it. It gives a stinking smell. Anybody who has gone there would have experienced this smell. People cannot even cross the bridges of this river without feeling the nasty smell. There is no proper drainage system. I do not know what the municipality is doing and what the Health department is doing. The dirty water is

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collected here and there like pools and the poorer classes of people bathe in that Tirumanimuttar river, and also wash their cloths. I hope the Government will refer this matter to the municipality and see that a proper drainage system is introduced in Salem, and thus maintain the health of the town well.

" Sir, I do not think the annual health week of school children and other things will improve matters. Unless the town is cleaned and a proper drainage system is introduced, I do not think any useful purpose will be served by having health weeks and things of that kind. So I hope Government will look into these matters and see that the health and sanitation of the town of Salem are improved."

* Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—" Sir, I have much pleasure in supporting the motion before the House. A little while ago, while you (Mr. Deputy President) were speaking from your seat, with regard to the polluted water-supply in the villages you had been referring to the fact that people were forced to take contaminated water from the tanks and wells in the villages and thus court many diseases and so Government must bestow their attention to see that in villages where this state of affairs exists, pure water is made available to the people. I should like now to tell you, Sir, a graver and sadder story with regard to water-supply in many a part. In my district, there is no proper and adequate quantity of drinking water in very many places not to speak of contamination or any such thing. The difficulty is all the greater this year, because of the absence of seasonal rains. You will find, Sir, that there is a great and acute dearth of drinking water. even in such a fairly big town as Tiruchengodu. It was the policy of the Government some time ago that wells for the supply of drinking water should be sunk wherever necessary and they were giving some grants to the district boards which with this grant and also by making a contribution of their own were taking steps to provide wells, more especially for the depressed classes. But in very many villages we find nowadays that there is no water in these wells because of the scarcity of rains for the past some years. So the expenditure which has been incurred in the direction of digging these wells has become a waste inasmuch as a few hundreds of rupees or for the matter of that a few thousands of rupees are not spent by the Government to deepen the wells further so as to enable them to give an adequate supply of water. The local authorities are also saying that they have not got much allotment to spend in this direction. What I submit is that Government have not bestowed that amount of attention which this matter deserves. So, I wish that Government should take up this question and see that wells which have already been sunk are sunk much deeper so as to enable them to give the necessary supply of water to the people of those places. Besides this, Sir, I would like also to point 12-
out that in very many places there is no proper supply of water for the p.m.
depressed classes. The caste people also need water very badly in some places in my district. Therefore it must be the endeavour of the Government to provide this bare necessity of the people before they take up anything else

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"I shall now pass on to the particular water-supply scheme referred to by my hon. Friend, Subadar-Major Nanjappa Bahadur, namely, the scheme for the supply of drinking water to Salem town from the Mettur reservoir. This question has been pending for a very long time in spite of the efforts of the municipality and the public of Salem. The Government sanctioned the preparation of plans and estimates so early as April last, but I am sorry to point out that the work was not proceeded with until as late as October last. Even after that no special staff seems to have been appointed for this work which was sanctioned by the Government and for which costs have been collected from the municipality. The Sanitary Engineer seems to be taking up the work of the preparation of the plans and estimates with the staff that is available with him for the normal work of his office. Sir, when Government have sanctioned a special staff for the purpose, I do not see why they should be so unmindful in not clearing the way and making the appointments at once and proceeding with the regular work. From this fact we have to infer that the Government are not sufficiently earnest about this, for if they had been sincere and earnest about this work, they could have seen to the appointment of the necessary staff long ago, had the plans and estimates ready by now and made the necessary allotments in the budget for the coming year 1936–37 and commenced actual work early in the coming April. But evidently they are lacking in enthusiasm in this respect. The very fact that the people and the Municipality of Salem have readily agreed to all the proposals of the Government should have shown to them how grave is the situation with regard to the supply of drinking water to Salem. At present there is a small tank at Panaimarathupatti which is hardly sufficient to supply enough water to any appreciable part of the town. There are only street pipes in a few places of the town but no house connexions whatsoever. Even then street pipes are provided only in a few streets of the old town area, but not all through the whole municipality. If you have a look at those pipes in the morning or the evening you will find, Sir, before every pipe some 50 people with pots and vessels waiting to get water. Such is the acute necessity and it is deplorable that the work in regard to this very urgent matter should not be proceeded with as quickly as it ought to have been. Leaving aside what has happened, I now urge, Sir, that the Government should take up this work and complete it soon as they promised in answer to a question of mine, No. 773, answered on the 25th February this year. I would request them to get the plans, estimates before the coming June, ask for a supplementary demand in July or August meeting of this House and launch the work in right earnest at least immediately afterwards. Sir, in this connexion, I want to point out that there are many other towns and villages also which are not provided with good drinking water. They are Yedapady, Jalakantapuram, Vanavasi, Nangavalli, Taramangalam, Omalur, Suramangalam and other places. In all these places the people are suffering very much for want of a proper and adequate supply of water. Many of these are fairly big towns and require the supply of drinking water very badly. If this

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scheme is taken up, extended to these towns and villages they can have the benefit of good water-supply for drinking and domestic purposes. I would request the Government to take up this scheme and work it out so as to provide facilities to all these places which I have mentioned.

" I would like to make a special reference to the town of Yedapady. Even there, the drinking water-supply is a great problem. The people are taking water for all their domestic use including drinking from the bed of the river Sarabanganadhi nearby by sinking some small pools there. But the water is so contaminated that cholera and other diseases often prevail there. The panchayat of that place have made representations to Government with regard to a proper water-supply for their town. They have also requested the Government to supply water to the town from the Salem-Mettur pipe line. The Sanitary Engineer to the Government seems to have said that the scheme would cost about two lakhs of rupees. If that is so, I doubt whether it will be possible for the panchayat to take up that scheme. The Sanitary Engineer also seems to be thinking of another scheme of taking water direct from the river Cauvery which is only six or seven miles from that place. In any case, I request the Government to see that the town gets a good supply of drinking water early. It is a major union, the population is large and there is very great and pressing need for drinking water facilities. It is also a congested area and the public health of the place is very bad indeed. The town requires proper drainage system also. I wish the Government pay heed to all these matters and meet the demands of this place soon.

" Sir, in the matter of giving grants, I understand that the Government have laid down a definite and cut and dry rule by which the panchayat of the place should be able to find one-half of the amount after which alone the Government would give the other half. If that is so, I submit that big works as these could not be undertaken by small unions; they could not find many thousands and sometimes a lakh and more which fall to their share. I would therefore suggest that Government must take the local conditions into consideration and be liberal and contribute more than half, say three-fourths of the required amount while giving a loan of the balance to be contributed by the local body. It is only then that a proper water-supply scheme can be an accomplished fact in many a panchayat area. So I would urge that the Government should extend this consideration to the unions of Yedapady, Jalakantapuram and other places so that they may have a proper water-supply for their towns.

" Sir, another point which I want to make mention here is this. In the original budget estimates for 1935–36 the Government had provided Rs. 45,500 for the purchase and free distribution of quinine; but in the revised estimate they have reduced the amount to Rs. 25,500. I do not know the reason for such reduction. In the rural parts, especially in parts which are in close proximity to the hills, the dreadful

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disease of malaria is playing havoc. The Government should see that this disease is eradicated; when such is the case, I cannot understand why the allotment for free supply of quinine has been reduced so miserably. I would like to know from the Hon. the Minister why this has been done. I would urge that it should be the endeavour of the Government to distribute quinine freely wherever possible. I would suggest that they should place a supply of quinine in the hands of village officers so that it may be easy for the people to obtain it.

"I find, Sir, that there are many other hon. Members anxious to speak on this motion and I could not take up further time. So I request the Hon. Minister to pay heed to what I have said, make a personal appeal to him to see that the Salem water-supply scheme is taken up and works are put into operation early in August and finished soon."

S. M. K. Beyabani Sahib Bahadur:—"Mr. Deputy President, Sir, I will not take more than five minutes as already much time has been spent on this question. I would like to urge on the Government to bear in mind certain important factors while considering this question of public health. This affects the masses living both in towns and in villages. I am sorry to say, Sir, that Government have been neglecting the interests of the poor villagers who are scattered all over the country, particularly those villagers who are living far away from towns. The Government should set apart a large sum of money for measures dealing with the health of these villagers. While on this question, Sir, one cannot but mention the several diseases such as guinea-worm, smallpox, malaria and cholera from which these people suffer. It is a pity that the people who suffer most are the villagers, the poor villagers. The Government should bear in mind that it is only the villager who contributes the greatest quota towards their coffers and without him no Government, I believe, could be run. The Government should spend larger sums for the villages, particularly in carrying on propaganda there. I emphasize this fact for this reason, Sir. I have come across many health propagandists who cannot speak a single word of the vernacular of the locality to which they have gone on propaganda work. It is a horrible thing to see that some health propagandists do not know the language of the particular area. Therefore while the Government select health propagandists, they should select only the people who are familiar with the language spoken in the area in which the propaganda will be carried on. Only then will the people be better educated. Recently I had occasion to visit a place to which the Hon. Chief Minister also had been invited to open a bridge called Abdul Hakim Bridge. There I was horrified to learn that cholera had been raging for the past ten or eleven months. Although cholera was raging here and there, I was very much surprised to learn that. The Chief Minister also was there as one of the guests. I learnt from the local doctor that it was all due to the fact that there was no proper drinking water-supply. Although a small river is running very close to that village there has been no scheme of water-supply for that village, so much so, the people living in the locality had to suffer from this

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horrible epidemic of cholera. I would therefore urge on the Government that they should provide at least bore-wells in each and every village there. After all the cost of these bore-wells will not be more than Rs. 50 on the average. There may be some places where Rs. 100 to Rs. 150 may have to be spent for a bore-pump. On an average I may 12
state that a sum of Rs. 50 will be enough to provide a bore-pump; if P.
this is done, people in the villages will get good drinking-water and they can protect themselves against all diseases.

"Another point I wish to emphasize is one concerning my own community. On more than one occasion, I have emphasized the need for appointing ladies who know Hindustani as health propagandists. People living in the Andhradesa and even in Madras—especially purdah ladies who live inside the four walls—do not know the local language. In Kurnool town alone, the Muslim population is nearly 18,000. Not a single lady, not a single purdah lady knows Telugu although Telugu is spoken in that particular area. It may be surprising to hear this fact, but I am speaking from personal knowledge. If you send a lady propagandist who knows only Telugu or Tamil to such parts, the purdah ladies cannot benefit themselves by lectures or lantern shows. I would therefore urge that lady propagandists—I do not mind if they are not Muslims—who know Hindustani might be appointed for this purpose. Even if she is a North Indian lady, it does not matter; the only thing is she must know the Hindustani language. If that is done, purdah ladies will be benefited by the health propaganda.

"I would like to bring another point to the notice of the Government. I had occasion to go to a particular village; although there is a panchayat board there, I learn that the death-rate among ladies from consumption is nearly a dozen a year. It is very sad to learn that consumption is responsible for the death of a large number of gosha ladies. It is so, because gosha ladies do not know the general principles of health. I request the Government to investigate the matter and find out the causes and remedy them.

"Sir, I wish to emphasise another important point which concerns the whole Presidency. There are a large number of malarial tracts in this Presidency. I request the Government to supply quinine in as large a quantity as possible so that people who are in need of it may get it easily and at a cheap rate. Although there is a dispensary in my village managed by the district board and although a doctor is working in that hospital, I am sorry to point out that for months together quinine is not available. The reason put forward by the doctor there is that the district board is not able to supply as much quinine as is required. I request the Government to come to the rescue of the district boards if they are poor and to see that quinine which is so essential to eradicate malaria is supplied in large quantities."

* Mr. N. Halasyam Ayyar:—"Mr. Deputy President, Sir, I find that in the year 1920 the expenditure on medical relief and public health was Rs. 37·82 lakhs; in the present year it amounts to Rs. 118

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lakhs. Notwithstanding this increased expenditure we do not find much relief given to the people at large. The bulletins and pamphlets issued by the Public Health Department regarding the causes of disease and the ways of treating them reach only large cities and towns. They do not find their way to the inner villages. I would propose to the Hon. Minister and request him to see that the bulletins and pamphlets that are prepared under the care and control of the Government are supplied in larger quantities to the villages. It is disquieting to find from the administration report that the recommendations of the Public Health Department were not given effect to in full by many municipalities. It only means that the control and check of the Government over these municipalities have not been as effective in this respect of giving relief to the people, as it ought to be.

" There have been loud complaints regarding water-supply schemes in several places. I wish to point out only a few of them. Take for instance, the Manaparai Water-supply Scheme. In the year 1925 several investigations were carried on and borings were taken on the advice of the Sanitary Engineering department. The water that was available in that area was sent to Guindy and their opinion was invited. Ultimately the original place was abandoned and another place has been suggested. This is only one instance to point out what inordinate delay and avoidable wastage are being caused in the matter of these investigations.

" In this connexion, I wish to draw the attention of the Hon. Minister to two cases of dismissals in the Sanitary Engineering department. One is the case of the Manager of the Sanitary Engineering department; he was in the first instance suspended and he was subsequently dismissed. He is a Government servant who has put in a service of 20 years. His appeal was dismissed and his whereabouts are not known. I request the Hon. Minister to look into his case. Another instance is the suspension of a Supervisor by name Srinivasan in the year 1935. His whereabouts are not known.

" I can take another instance of avoidable delay and wastage. Upon the Vizagapatam Water-supply Scheme a sum of Rs. 1 lakh was spent on investigation; subsequently another one lakh of rupees was spent on the improvement of the original scheme. Still the result is the town has not yet got a well-protected water-supply scheme. It is now stated that a sum of Rs. 30,000 is proposed to be spent on finding a new source of supply, a river bed seven miles from the town on the advice of the Sanitary Engineer; the results are said to be not very encouraging.

" A third instance of avoidable delay and wastage is to be found with regard to the investigation in connexion with water-supply to Guntur. Originally a sum of Rs. 60,000 or Rs. 70,000 was spent under the control of the Sanitary department; another additional expenditure of Rs. 30,000 was spent on investigation for a new source from Kistna, 20 miles away from Guntur. The results are not yet known. The scheme is still under investigation and it is not known whether it will be possible to know the recommendations of these investigations. I am

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pointing out these three instances, three glaring instances of inordinate delay and avoidable wastage in the matter of investigation of water-supply schemes. I would request the Hon. Minister for Public Health to enquire into the matter.

"I do not know why the Trichinopoly Municipal Council does not have the services of the Municipal Engineer. The vacancy arose in the year 1935 and yet no substitute has been appointed in the place, though, in the service of the municipality itself, a competent engineer is to be found. Complaints in this direction have been loud and growing and the least that the Hon. Minister can do to allay these complaints is to enquire into the causes of this gross abuse of powers and see that a remedy is given.

"There is nothing to congratulate ourselves upon the general work of the Ministry for Public Health. Notwithstanding the expenditure we are incurring year after year, the death-rate in India is still very high; you can compare it with other countries. In Canada, it is only 10·7. In India it is 24·5 per thousand. The average duration of life in this country is 26·7, while it is 57·6 in Britain. The reason for this is the relief that we give by the administration of the Public Health Department is inadequate and unsatisfactory."

* Mr. K. Koti Reddi:—"Mr. Deputy President, Sir, if this department works well and properly, I think the amount of money that need to be spent for medical relief will be much less. The reason why loud complaints are made in this Council by many Members who are interested in rural welfare is that the village is looked upon with step-motherly affection by the Government in the matter of administration of public health. While the major portion of the revenue that is contributed by people comes from the villages, the amount of money that is spent on the village by way of services by the Public Health Department is very very small compared with what you spend on towns. I will not grudge the amount that you spend in the towns. But, out of the money spent on public health schemes, the villager gets practically nothing. Time and again we have been complaining that the amount that is spent for rural water-supply, in the matter of village roads, etc., is absolutely small. As against the provision of Rs. 8 lakhs made in this year's budget for water-supply schemes, the villager gets only Rs. 2·9 lakhs. If the Government want to improve the health of the villager, they must concentrate their attention on schemes of rural water-supply, of maternity benefit and of free distribution of quinine.

"The question of village-planning as against town-planning is a very important one. I have been drawing the attention of the Government for the last four or five years to the need for having a plan for village development, for giving the villager a plan for building houses, so that he is made to observe certain rules in the matter of building houses. Neither in replying to budget debates in this House nor in the administration reports of this department, a word is mentioned about what the Government propose to do with regard to village planning. Though the Government do not refer to this point in their

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orders on the administration report, the Town-Planning Expert has drawn the attention of the Government to the necessity of adopting
-45 a plan for village development. In paragraph 61 of the Annual Report
m. for the year 1934–35, he says:

'Many of the great urban and other problems which are to-day taxing our ingenuity and financial capacity are due to lack of forethought and planning in advance. Out of the village, the city grows, and the question of the proper planning *organization and development* of the village is of vital importance from that point of view, and it is suggested that this question should be one of the first matters to occupy the attention of the new Provincial Economic Council.'

"Whether we believe him or not, with regard to the desirability of developing the village into a town, I think it is absolutely necessary that immediate attention should be given to the question of proper planning in the village. In the black cotton soil parts of the Ceded districts, the question of finding enough space for house-building is becoming a problem. For one thing or other, the people of a village do not want to go out of the village for building houses, with the result that they have very little space and live along with cattle under the same building. I do not want to go into greater details, as I have more than once dealt with this question previously. I only want to impress on the Government the urgent need for enacting a law for village-planning.

"In regard to water-supply schemes, many a village is not having any proper water-supply, let alone protected water-supply. There are a number of villages which, if we adopt a joint plan or scheme for a group for getting water from a nearby river or spring well, will be benefited. The real difficulty seems to be the want of finance. The Government, whenever they propose to spend money on the village, require half of it to be contributed by the village, even as they adopt this policy in regard to big towns. Where is the justification, I ask, for them to demand the same terms from the village. What after all is the contribution from the towns towards the provincial finances? Absolutely nothing. You drain away the resources of the villager in many ways, and yet ask him for a contribution for water-supply schemes. The result is that he is not in a position to make the contribution and so, there is no water-supply scheme at all for him. I do hope, Sir, that Government will revise their notions of demanding a part of the cost of such schemes from the villager. When in America, some of the towns and villages get their water-supply from 300 and 400 miles away, in this country we have not been able to supply our towns and villages even from places ten or fifteen miles away, where water is easily available.

"Another point I wish to refer to is maternity benefit. Whether Government are in a position to supply the medical needs of an area or not, maternity benefit at least should be provided. I would request Government to see that no village goes without proper provision for maternity benefit. This is a question which requires to be attended to as early as possible if not immediately.

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" Again, Sir, we find that malaria is spreading everywhere and most of the villages are suffering for want of sufficient supply of quinine. No doubt it may be said that quinine is not costly and can be got from the nearest post office or the village magistrate; but I think that Government should see that it is more readily available to villagers and that without cost.

" On the question of propaganda, I agree with the remarks of Mr. Halasyam Ayyar, that Government should see that the pamphlets they publish in regard to public health reach all the villages. If propaganda is to be of any use at all, it should reach every village; it is much more necessary in the villages than in the towns. In this connexion, I may say that I am still of opinion that separation into health matters and medical matters is not necessary. For instance, if every doctor who is appointed to a rural area is made to do health propaganda, it will be better. Any word that comes from a doctor is valued much more than from an ordinary man, even if he be a health inspector. After all, we are now having very few health inspectors—I think one at the most for a taluk—and that is absolutely inadequate. Therefore, I hope that the Government will investigate into this question and find out whether it will not be better to dispense with these health inspectors and appoint doctors in their stead, so that they can not only give medical aid to the people but can also do propaganda on behalf of public health. Such a course, if adopted, will be less expensive to the Government and give greater benefit to the people.

" Another important problem requiring the immediate attention of Government is the question of nutrition. My friend, Mr. Shetty, has already referred to it. I referred to it also last year, and the attention that the Government have so far bestowed on this matter is inadequate. Any amount of money spent on the investigation of this question is worth spending. It is the opinion of a number of scientists that if the present quantity of food eaten by humanity is properly adjusted, it will be of greater nutritious value. I request that Government should appoint some specialists for making the necessary research. It was only the other day that my friend, Mr. Premayya, was complaining about the use of ragi given in the hostel intended for the depressed classes. Sir, so many of us are slaves to false ideas of prestige about food, that I am afraid we are not properly informed about the nutritious value of various kinds of food. Ragi, I am sure, has been found to be much more nutritious, and is much better for health; I think it is now being used as food in the consumptive hospital at Madanapalle. Having got that information, I personally wanted to experiment it in my family, and to-day, instead of taking coffee, myself and my children take a sort of conjee made out of ragi. It is really very nutritious, and we can also avoid the bad effects that are attributed to coffee. No doubt this ragi coffee is a bit more expensive, because it requires a little more of sugar and a little more of milk, if it is to be made tasteful. I give this instance just with a view to

point out that if a proper enquiry is made into the nutritive value of our foods, we will very soon change our present ideas. In the black cotton soil areas of the Ceded districts, cholam is generally taken by the people, along with a few chillies, occasionally with some green vegetables. And they are much better both in health and physique than most of us who are only eating rice. With regard to rice, it has now been found out that milled rice is very bad and contributes to many of the diseases we suffer from. I do not know why, if that is the case, the Government should not altogether prohibit milled rice being sold in the province.

" Sir, I do not want to take up more time, and I shall conclude by once more impressing on the Government the fact that they ought not to neglect the village in the matter of public health, the village which contributes to the major portion of the revenues of our province."

* The DEPUTY PRESIDENT :—" As the Hon. Minister is to reply at 1 o'clock, I wish the next speaker takes only five minutes."

* Mrs. K. ALAMELUMANGATHAYARAMMA :—" From the figures given in the Administration Report of the Presidency for the year 1934–35 under the heading ' Vital Statistics and Medical Services ' one finds that deaths are in excess of births. That is not a satisfactory state of affairs. It shows that the Public Health Department should exert itself more and bring down the level of mortality. The diseases which mainly contribute to the large mortality that has been recorded are cholera, small-pox and fever, and we find that these diseases have been prevalent all over the Presidency with the exception of the city of Madras. I would therefore appeal to Government to take special measures for combating and preventing the spread of epidemic diseases in mufassal areas, particularly in urban areas.

" In this connexion, I desire to draw the attention of the Government to the very unhealthy conditions that prevail in the town of Saidapet which is just within a few miles of the Provincial capital. In Saidapet good drinking-water is not obtainable and people have to use water from wells. Another very serious source of insanitation in that town is that a large portion of the work of washermen who cater to the population of the city of Madras is carried on in Saidapet. These dhobis, whose number is really very large, use the portion of Adyar river which is closest to Saidapet town, and as they carry on their work of washing clothes quite freely and without any control, it is not surprising that Saidapet town is very unhealthy and is noted for elephantiasis and other horrible diseases. I would, if I may, suggest that another place, far away from the town, should be set apart for these laundering operations.

" I wish to say a word also on the subject of anti-leprosy work. Leprosy is a dreaded disease, and it is proverbial how people in all lands and at all times have tried to keep themselves away from the reach of

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this scourge. In this country especially the custom still prevails, whenever a bride is sought, to make enquiries extending back to seven generations, with the object of finding out whether the family had been quite free of leprosy even in the case of persons who had ceased to live. But in these days we are unable to keep lepers away from healthy men. Leprosy is a highly contagious disease. But people who suffer from it are, so to say, let loose on the public, with the result that healthy people are also affected by it. Beggars are everywhere about us, and many of them are persons suffering from leprosy in its most contagious state. They mix freely with us at important bus-stands and junctions of thoroughfares. They have to be segregated. It is true that a leper settlement is maintained at Tirumani. But there is a general complaint that there is not sufficient accommodation at that settlement to house the lepers of Madras and other towns. I am aware that in this city certain clinics have been established to treat leprosy in the initial stages. But this disease is known to be very obstinate, and therefore the clinics are not a sufficient solution of the problem. We learn that leprosy is spreading to school children also. We come to know from the medical report that in almost every elementary school run by the Corporation of Madras there are children suffering from leprosy, and that their number may be anything from four to ten or fifteen. I request Government to take special note of the rapid spread of this disease and concert measures to keep it under check.

"I consider that the giving of assistance to the National Health Association should receive the special attention of Government. This Association and the Health Propaganda Board are doing valuable work in the way of educating the public on matters affecting their health by giving lectures and shows with the aid of lantern slides. It is worthy of note that the activities of the Public Health Staff will by themselves be of little use unless they are supplemented by sustained instruction to the people as to how to look after their own health, and I am reminded in this connexion of a speech made by Her Excellency Lady Marjorie Erskine, who is the Patron and President of the National Health Association, who stated on the occasion of the annual celebration, last year, of the Association, that it was supplementing the efforts of Government in eradicating diseases and deserved aid and encouragement. I remember that Government promised assistance, but they have not so far given any grant which the public was led to expect would be given. I hope Government will bear in mind the value of the work carried on by this Association, and give it the help that it deserves.

"Speaking on health propaganda, I feel that such propaganda should be carried also to institutions where girls are educated. As future mothers, they should be taught the value and need of general sanitation. I hope Government will do something in this direction also."

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"As regards my friend, Mr. Koti Reddi's desire to have village planning, I am certainly in agreement with him. No doubt on various occasions I have personally examined this question, but the main difficulty that stands in the way is that of finance and I am afraid we have to wait for better times if this big problem is to be effectively faced and adequate funds made available for giving protected water-supply to all the villages. By this I do not mean to say that nothing should be done now. We are trying our best to provide funds to the fullest extent possible to increase those facilities and Government realize that this question of water-supply is of very great importance and on that account they have been giving preference to these schemes over everything else. I believe, Sir, to the best of my ability I have answered the various points raised by hon. Members."

* The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"Mr. President, hon. Members who have spoken on this cut motion have enunciated certain general principles with regard to public health. I might say at once that the Government are in entire agreement with these hon. Members in respect of these principles and the policy on which the Government have been working the Public Health department is based on these principles. So, on this fundamental point Government and the hon. Members of the Opposition are in entire agreement; and I might also state that Government have been steadily pursuing a policy of implementing these principles. One of the points on which hon. Members have laid stress, is that the provision made for anti-malarial operations is inadequate. Of course, as hon. Members themselves have said, quinine has been supplied free by the Government for years. That is still being continued, but they are not satisfied with the provision that has been made in the next year for
15 this purpose. I may mention here that the Government of India have
m. sanctioned a free supply of four thousand pounds of quinine for free distribution within this Presidency and Government are considering proposals as to the best method of distributing this quantity of four thousand pounds. I am sure with this large gift from the Government of India we shall have a fairly large quantity of quinine to be distributed free among the masses of this Presidency. I may also mention as further evidence of Government's desire to combat malaria that they have sanctioned anti-malarial operations at a cost of Rs. 50,00(at a few selected areas in this Presidency. I hope, Sir, hon. Member will realize that the Government are alive to the necessity of makin provision for anti-malarial work to the extent to which funds permi such operations being undertaken. Then, you pointed out, Sir, th great importance of preventing soil pollution. The Government als are mindful of the necessity of preventing that and special attentio is being bestowed by the schemes which will be found in the budge In 1928, four units, rural sanitation units, were sanctioned in th Presidency. Since then two more have been added and there are present six rural sanitation units working in this Presidency. The

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main activities are provision of latrines in villages, intensive propaganda on the dangers of soil pollution, hookworm and mass treatment of hookworm. These units go from district to district and after their work is finished in a district further operations are left in the hands of the district board. They have so far finished five districts and they have proceeded to the next set of districts. I may also mention, Sir, in this connexion that in this year the Government have decided to utilize a sum of Rs. 2·75 lakhs for the improvement of village sanitation by providing bore-hole latrines in 100 selected villages. This amount has been found from the allotment given by the Government of India for rural uplift and in making these bore-hole latrines the Public Health department are having due regard to the improvement of the amenities of areas inhabited by the depressed classes. These works are now under execution and I hope, Sir, they will soon be finished. Then I must say that I am in entire agreement with my friend, Mr. Halasyam Ayyar, when he says that public health propaganda if it is to be really effective must reach the masses. If it does not reach at present I am sure it is the duty of the Government to see that steps are taken to extend the propaganda over rural areas also. I may mention one matter which perhaps may interest my hon. Friend that the Government have recently sanctioned a scheme which is intended for intensive rural work. They have sanctioned a scheme for eighteen months in Poonamalle and surrounding villages in the Sriperumbudur taluk of the Chingleput district and the cost of the scheme will come out of the allotment given by the Government of India. This will be I may submit, Sir, a very valuable scheme and when this has been tried and proved successful similar schemes will be introduced in other areas also. Thus it will not confine itself to any one branch of rural uplift or rural amelioration but the work will be intensive in the rural areas in which it operates. My hon. Friend, Mr. Shetty, referred to the good work that is being done by the National Health Association. I hope to meet soon representatives of this association and get from them information about their work and when I meet I will see if it is not possible to restore the help that was being given to them. My hon. Friend, Mr. Muniswami Pillai, made a suggestion which is certainly worthy of consideration. As he pointed out, in the Education department a report is sent every year with regard to the progress of education amongst the depressed classes, the improvement in the admission of depressed classes pupils in the general schools and the general spread of education amongst the depressed classes. As he said it will be very useful if a similar report is called for with regard to the public health in these areas inhabited by the depressed classes. I shall certainly examine the matter carefully and if it is possible to introduce a similar system in the Public Health department also I shall certainly do it. He again complained of the omission of any provision for temperance propaganda in 1936–37. I have already spoken about that in my reply to the discussion on the Excise demand and possibly in my reply to the general discussion. One additional fact, I may perhaps be permitted to mention, Sir. The Government

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were prepared to make a provision this year and they put up a part II scheme but the Finance Committee which as my hon. Friend knows consists of representatives of this House turned it down. So it is not right to blame the Government for not having made any provision. However as I have said all that could be done in the matter I will do. He also complained about the rigidity of the rules with regard to the distribution of these subsidies and that it was almost impossible for non-official bodies to take advantage of this provision. I shall examine the rules and see if it is possible to relax them in any way and if it is possible I shall certainly do that. My hon. Friend, Mr. Beyabani, from Kurnool has advised Government to employ lady propaganda officers in public health. I do not know if any lady will be available for this purpose. If ladies are available certainly Government will employ them. But I am very doubtful if any ladies can be found for this purpose. I think, Sir, I have nothing more to say. (Mrs. Alamelumangathayaramma: 'What about leprosy relief?') As regards leprosy I think I said all that I have to say when speaking on the Medical demand. Government are already taking steps for leprosy relief and they will be in a position to extend their work when the contributions that are expected from His Majesty's Silver Jubilee Fund are received. I do not know what else I can say at present on the subject."

The cut motion was by leave withdrawn.

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

At this stage the Council rose for lunch.

(After Lunch—2-30 p.m.)

DEMAND XXI—AGRICULTURE—TRANSFERRED.

* The Hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan:—" Mr. President, Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I move—

> '*that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs.* 17,95,600 *under Demand XXI—Agriculture—Transferred*'."

* Mr. G. R. Premayya:—" Mr. President, Sir, I move the motion that stands in my name, viz.—

> '*To reduce the allotment of Rs.* 15,600 *for Agriculture—Transferred—Direction—Pay of Officers by Rs.* 100.'

My object is to criticize the agricultural policy of the Government.

" Sir, the problem of India is food supply. About 80 per cent of the population is ryots. Before I proceed with my speech, I want to make a reference to some speeches made in the Viceregal Council some time ago. I quoted from these speeches here on several occasions, but I think it will do good even to-day if I quoted some of them. Mr. Nicholson, Member of the Viceregal Council, once said that 'agriculture in India is charged by the Government with the largest land

revenue in the world.' Mr. Cunningham estimated that 90 per cent of the rural population and 80 per cent of the total population of India are closely connected with land and that from these unfortunate people the Government of India draws the largest income. I think, Sir, these two statements will go to prove that in India very little attention has been paid to agriculture.

" Coming to our Presidency, I have a few remarks to offer. Some time ago, the Royal Commission on Agriculture visited India and gave some suggestions to all the provinces as to how to improve agricultural education. Under this Demand, Sir, I will confine myself to this aspect of the question, that is, agricultural education. Year after year, Sir, I have been speaking on this question. What is important to the other countries of the world should also be important to India, especially to our province. In France, Sir, they have introduced courses in agriculture in their primary schools. France is a very thickly populated country. The standard of life in that country is very high. For this high standard of life more money is needed; for this they mostly draw their income from the land. Belgium also did the same thing. Belgium started a large number of agricultural schools, and they diffused agricultural knowledge throughout the whole country. Sir, I need not show as to which are the countries that have started this kind of education to be given to the people. Holland is otherwise called 'Howoland'; that means that the land is below the sea level and it is always water-logged. Although it is in such a bad condition, the agricultural knowledge of the people saved the country, and they are producing enough of food within their own country. So also, I can show that even in Germany, Austria-Hungary, Sweden, Norway and in several other countries, they have introduced agricultural subjects into the primary and secondary grades of their schools. Having known that there is very little agricultural knowledge in India, the Government thought fit to send for Lord Linlithgow, the Viceroy-Designate of India, to investigate and find out how best this kind of education could be introduced in India. Last year, Sir, the Hon. Minister in charge of this subject promised that he would like to meet his friends' wishes and make an attempt to introduce some such subjects at least into the primary and secondary schools. He did make an attempt and with the co-operation of the Director of Public Instruction he wanted to start a school in Kalahasti. He actually did start it, and eventually the plan was turned down. Now, it seems there is nothing at all in this province to propagate agricultural knowledge and to educate the masses in this subject. Sir, after the Royal Commission on Agriculture had left India, the United Provinces, Bombay, Bengal and several other provinces had started several schools, in which they introduced courses in agriculture, garden crops, bee-hiving and several other allied subjects. Switzerland is a very rocky country; the soil there is not good for farming. So they have started a scheme of rearing milch cows. Thereby they are able to export milk to other countries, and so they are making a

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omfortable living now. Otherwise, they should have starved. We ave very good land in our country, very rich alluvial soil. Now, ir, in the Administration Report of the Madras Government, we find hat 4 crores and odd acres are lying uncultivated. A vast area of ultivable land is lying fallow. If cultivation is carried on in this area vhere would be the necessity for importing rice from other countries? Agricultural knowledge in our people is very poor. On one occasion at one of the garden parties I was sitting at a table with some other Members of this House. They started a discussion with the Head of the Province. It was about Salem mangoes. One member of the Council who is here—not now—said that their mangoes are wonderful in the whole country, because he said that they are grafted on cotton plants. I simply laughed at the statement and kept quiet. Another said: Oh! it must be wonderful. Several hon. Members here may still think that mangoes can be grafted on cotton plants. Such is the ignorance in this country. The department is publishing several bulletins, but they do not reach the masses. If the Hon. Minister would co-operate with the Director of Public Instruction and evolve a scheme by which the sons of the ryot would be able to gain some knowledge in this branch that would be a great move forward. That something has been done, I do not deny. They have started model farms in several places in the Presidency. But that has been a failure. But the one thing they have been doing usefully is the instruction they are giving in the Agricultural College. But several of the graduates turned out of the college are roaming about the streets without any food. Of course, Government cannot employ all the people sent out of the college. But yet they could evolve a scheme by which they could help them. They could give fifty or hundred acres to each graduate and ask him to cultivate. That would be of great benefit to the country.

"Another thing is, in Germany, France and such other places many poorhouses have been started into which they take the unemployed and the tramps, and these poorhouses will be in chage of the agricultural graduates who will teach them on agricultural matters. After they finish the training of four or five years they go out and take some land from the Government and cultivate it themselves. Now here we have a lot of land lying waste and there are lots of agricultural graduates roaming about. Why can we not follow that example of other countries? The difficulty may be this. The Hon. Minister is put in a steel frame; he cannot move of his own accord; he is under certain rules; he is known to be very sympathetic to the people and they have known his difficulties. Although I have not had any talk with him I got this information from some officials, that he is trying his best to introduce this subject in the schools, but there comes the difficulty from the Director of Public Instruction. We have trained teachers in the schools. The pupils are studying Botany and Zoology. In place of these subjects agricultural subjects may be introduced and the teachers after receiving training in the training schools may go out

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and teach this subject to the children in the villages. On another occasion I was about to say something about education, but I had very little time. If our children are sent to schools they don't *feel it* a pleasure, because the whole day they spend their life outside the fields. Just take for example, the Andhra Christian College at Guntur. We have given chance to 40,000 boys to go through the college course. After fifty years we have only 25 graduates. What does that mean? That does not mean that several of the pupils have left schools to take up higher education. What are they doing? They are roaming about, and spoiling the other people. They are no good for general education; if these subjects had been taught to them along with other subjects, they should have earned an honourable livelihood. The education that we are now imparting is of no good to us. On the other hand, if agricultural subjects and some of the commercial subjects could be taught to these people, it would go a long way towards solving the unemployment problem. Sir, very near my place, there is a big tract of arable land, rich land lying waste. Government do not care to know whether it is cultivable or not. Such land could be given to these agricultural graduates or those interested in cultivation. Then, Sir, in our country we can easily start poultry and pig-rearing. Holland supports itself by selling eggs. You can ask, how can a whole country support itself by selling eggs? I can say without fear of contradiction that three-fourths of the income of Holland comes by selling eggs. Why should we not copy it? We are not taking advantage of the potentialities of this country. I find that Switzerland could maintain itself by selling cows' milk. Why should we not maintain ourselves by poultry, dairy, pig-rearing, bee-hiving and such other industries? I request the Hon. Minister to try them at least this year—I think it is his final year—to induce the Director of Public Instruction to see that at least a beginning is made this year and leave it to others to continue it. If he could do that much, he will be a great person whose services to the country will long be remembered."

* Mr. C. Basu Dev:—" Mr. President, Sir, I beg the indulgence of this House for addressing it on a subject in which I am definitely a layman; but being a member of this House and being interested in the welfare of the people, I spent some thought on this question. It struck me, Mr. President, that the main defect of this department is one that does not lie in the department itself, but in the fact that it has absolutely no non-official co-operation or interest worth mentioning. Sir, in education we have district educational councils; in the matter of co-operative societies, we have numerous non-officials taking interest in the development of the department. But in agriculture, I am afraid, Sir,—I may be corrected if I am wrong—there is no non-official body either provincial or in the districts, which takes interest in this subject. I suggest that the time has now arrived when in the districts at least we should establish district agricultural councils—I understand that there is an association called the district agricultural association

at Coimbatore. With the aid of such agricultural councils, I am sure, the various activities of the department, which are certainly not few, and which are not at all unsatisfactory, will be taken to the masses to an extent which will satisfy hon. Members of this House. I have heard year after year complaints levelled against the department that its activities have not reached the masses. How can it be done without non-official co-operation and without adequate staff to do propaganda work on behalf of the department? Probably Government are not in a position to find adequate funds to employ a large army of people who will be able to convey the message of the department to the tillers of the soil. So I submit once more that these district agricultural councils have become a necessity and I hope the Government will consider this suggestion.

" Sir, much has been said about the educated unemployed. May I suggest a means by which at least a few of these unemployed may be absorbed? We have heard very much about uneconomic small holdings of land. It is an evil which I am sure the Agricultural department by itself will not be able to solve; it is inherent in the system of our joint family ownership of land and the division to which the family property is subjected to, as soon as the holder of the property dies. Sir, all these small holdings, or a few of them, can be consolidated into a co-operative concern and a young man put in charge of it. In addition to the advantage which the presence of an young educated person necessarily results in, in the matter of marketing the produce and in purchasing seeds, etc., such a consolidation adds to the cultivable land by sparing the innumerable bunds that now mark the boundaries of these small holdings. At the same time, we will be giving some employment to the educated young man who can use his influence and his knowledge to bring about better conditions not only for carrying on the industry of agriculture, but also for finding better markets for the produce. Sir, one of the sub-committees of the Economic Council in our province is considering the question of agriculture. I do not know if it is considering the question of how best to give the actual tiller of the soil the best of conditions for marketing his produce and also to save him from the middleman who is the greatest danger to the agriculturist and to society.

" Sir, referring to the subject of manure, I was told by an expert that large quantities of a material suitable for manure are being shipped to foreign countries. He was referring to the enormous quantities of bones exported from our country thus depriving us of one of the natural sources of manure. I was told that a duty on the export of bones would in some way help to retain for the country this source of manure.

" Complaint also has been made about the poor yield of milk of the Indian cow, especially the Madras cow. Sir, in this connexion I must admit that it is not the fault of anybody, much less of the

Agricultural department that this is so. If the milk yield is low, it is due to the Hindu sentiment with regard to the cow. In foreign countries where the cow is not worshipped, sterile and useless cows are either sent to the butcher or disposed of in some other way. But, in this country, both the useless cow and the useful cow share the available fodder with the result that the latter goes without adequate food and, no wonder, it does not yield adequate quantity of milk. I have only pointed out how Hindu sentiment is at the bottom of the low milk-yield of the cow. I do not think I can offer any suggestion by which we can circumvent this sentiment and prevail upon the people to retain only the useful cow for the benefit of the people."

* Mr. V. T. Arasu:—" Mr. President, you will remember, Sir, that in the course of the general discussion on the Budget, I criticized the Minister for Public Works for not having done anything by way of improving the agricultural resources of this province. In that connexion, I said that the Agricultural department has done next to nothing. The Hon. Minister was very much perturbed by that statement, and he took me to task in the course of his reply. He quoted the authority of one of my esteemed friends, Mr. K. S. Sivasubrahmanya Ayyar of Mannargudi, as having said that the Agricultural department of this province has done splendid work. Sir, ordinarily, it is a well-understood principle that it is no argument to quote authority; in exceptional circumstances, however, that may be done. But it must be remembered that the authority or the opinion thus quoted must be of a person who has devoted a lifetime to the study of that subject. Perhaps, in such circumstances, it may be permissible to quote opinions But, I cannot excuse my Hon. Friend the Minister for quoting my esteemed friend, Mr. Sivasubrahmanya Ayyar, as against the statement that I made that the Agricultural department has done next to nothing. It must also be borne in mind that what Mr. Sivasubrahmanya Ayyar said was not that the Agricultural department as a whole has done anything by way of improving the agricultural resources of this presidency. All that he said was that the then Director of Agriculture had been doing good work. To say that a particular officer is doing good work does not mean that the whole department is working allright. My Hon. Friend the Minister cannot therefore take credit for the whole department from that statement of Mr. Sivasubrahmanya Ayyar.

" In support of my statement that the Agricultural department has done next to nothing, I should like to place before this House a few facts and figures regarding the working of this department. Sir, the value of the work done by a department is to be judged by the intensive and extensive improvements effected by it. We should compare, for this purpose, the existing area under cultivation with that obtaining some time ago. If the Hon. Minister would prove to me that as a result of the work of this Agricultural department, the total area under cultivation in this presidency has increased, I am prepared to bow my head to him and say that the Agricultural department has done

some good work and therefore it might be continued. On the other hand, I find from the reports published by the Government themselves—by the Agricultural department and by the Board of Revenue—that in the year 1920–21 the total area under paddy cultivation was 11·42 million acres, under cereals of all kinds 26·49 million acres; under condiments and spices ·722 million acres; under vegetable, fruit and root cultivation ·627 million acres; under oil seeds 3·6 million acres; under cotton 2·3 million acres; and the total area of land in the whole presidency under all kinds of cultivation was 38·29 million acres.

" Now let us take the figures for 1934–35, the latest available. You will find that the total area under cultivation has gone down from 38·29 million acres to 37·53 million acres. I will give the items separately. Under paddy you will find that there is a decrease from 11·42 million acres in 1920–21 to 11·05 million acres in 1934–35; under condiments and spices, there is a slight increase from ·722 million acres to ·81 million acres. Again under fruit, vegetable and root cultivation, there is a slight increase from ·627 million acres to ·72 million acres; and under oil seeds also there is a slight increase. Under cotton cultivation, the area in 1934–35 is just the same as in 1920–21. Taking the whole area under cultivation you will find, Mr. President, that there is a decrease of nearly one million acres.

" Perhaps it might be argued that the extent of land is no basis to assess the work of the department but that the value of its work must be assessed by the yield per acre. I admit there is some force in that argument. But I will show to the House how in the matter of yield also the Agricultural department cannot show that it has succeeded in showing any tangible improvement. You will remember, Sir, and many hon. Members of the House will remember too, that in the year 1919 a survey of all agricultural land was made by a very eminent revenue official of the Government. As a result of that survey he arrived at the average normal yield per acre under various crops. In 1919, the normal average yield per acre of the various crops for the preceding twenty years was published, and it is well known to every hon. Member of this House. We can take that as the average. We must in this connexion remember that the average yield taken was of the twenty years preceding 1919, i.e., during the years when the Agricultural department was not working, at any rate not as intensively as it has been doing under the Montagu-Chelmsford Reforms. The average given to us may therefore be taken as the average for centuries past. According to these statistics, I find that the average yield per acre of land under paddy cultivation was 1,747 lb.; groundnut 1,120 lb.; cotton (irrigated) 250 lb. and cotton (unirrigated) 71 lb. Now let us take the figures published in the season and crop report for fasli 1341. You will find that in all the three kinds of crops mentioned above, the yield per acre is lower than the average published in 1919, i.e., before the Agricultural department began to work in earnest. In 1934–35 the yield per acre under paddy was 1,664 lb, or about 100 lb. less than

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the average of the twenty years preceding 1919. In regard to groundnut, one of the important commercial products in this province, whereas the average for the twenty years preceding 1919 was 1,120 lb., the yield in 1934–35 was only 877 lb. Under cotton (irrigated) the yield per acre in 1934–35 was 231, i.e., 19 lb. below the average, and under cotton (unirrigated) the yield came down from 71 lb. to 63 lb. per acre. Sir, I am quoting these figures to show that the Agricultural department has not succeeded in improving agriculture either intensively or extensively.

"I admit, no doubt, that the department has been carrying on some researches and doing demonstration work in some areas showing the advantage of carrying on agriculture under scientific methods. I do admit it, and I pay my meed of tribute to the department for the research work it has been doing. But what is the use of all this research if it is not going to be utilized by the people? If you do not show any material advance in the yield per acre or in the extent of land under cultivation, what is the use of this research work? You might as well close down this department altogether, seeing that before that department was set up people were getting better yield from the land. If the Agricultural department has any right to exist, and if it is to be of any utility to the public at large, the Government must infuse into the department what I must term, a driving force by which it can carry to the villager the results of its research and tell him: 'look here, out of a plot of land on which we have experimented, we have got so much yield.' I find from a report published by the Agricultural department that out of one plot of land that it selected for experimental purposes, the yield of groundnut was nearly 1,600 lb. That is a very creditable record. This is a record of which the department can legitimately be proud. It must take that result to the masses and tell them: 'look here, this is an experi- 3
ment which we have conducted; by following certain methods we have P
got this amount of yield. You agriculturists, why don't you do the same thing?' If Government had done anything in that direction it would have been creditable to them. But that has not been done. In that connexion, I welcome the suggestion of my hon. Friend Mr. Basu Dev that the co-operation of non-officials should be taken in this matter and an Agricultural Board should be set up for each district to advise the people about the benefits of the research work carried on by this department and to encourage them to have the benefit of this research in their agricultural operations.

"Sir, when I was talking of the total yield and the area of cultivation, I forgot to refer to the statistics published in regard to this matter by the United States of America and the Soviet Republic. I humbly request the Hon. Minister for Public Works to read some of the publications of the U.S.S.R. which give us a complete idea as to how agricultural operations are carried on there. On a perusal of what is contained in those publications, the Hon. Minister cannot but come to the conclusion that if he had done half as much as what

has been done in Soviet Russia, there would have been considerable improvement made in our agriculture, and India could then boast of being one of the foremost agricultural countries in the world. If we compare the yield per acre in 1922 with the yield per acre in 1934 we find that it has more than trebled itself in Russia. If previously the yield of wheat per acre was, say, 600 or 700 lb. in 1922, the yield to-day is 2,100 lb. When Russia was able to do that, why not India be able to do it? In the case of the United States of America, it would be significant to note what amount of attention they have devoted to the development of agriculture. You will find that in that country the yield per acre of land under cotton cultivation—I am taking only the irrigated cotton crop—is about 659 lb. Now what is the yield in our country? It is 231 lb. on an average and the actual yield is something lower than that. Of course it may be argued that the United States of America is an advanced country. But take a backward country, an Oriental country like Egypt. You will see that the yield per acre of cotton land there is 410 lb. or thereabout. What is it that has made these countries get such enormous yields? Now, Sir, in our country we have a decreasing return, if I may use that term. Though I do not seriously suggest that the Agricultural department should be closed down, I submit in all seriousness that we must reconsider our position. If as a result of the work of the Agricultural department we are not able to show any appreciable increase in the yield, and if the researches carried on by the department have not been utilized by the people, I ask why waste 20 lakhs of rupees over that department. Perhaps that 20 lakhs of rupees might very profitably be used for giving dolls to the agriculturists. I would therefore suggest that this amount of 20 lakhs of rupees be utilized for purchasing manure and distributing it to the villagers. If that is done, we would be doing a great service to the agriculturists.

"Let me once again, in conclusion, appeal to the Hon. Ministei to take up the suggestion of my hon. Friend Mr. Basu Dev and see that he enlists the co-operation of non-officials by establishing Agricultural Councils in all districts and thus enable the agriculturists o: this Province to adopt the improved methods of agriculture found ou by the researches carried on by this department."

(At this stage the Deputy President took the Chair.)

Diwan Bahadur M. Gopalaswami Mudaliyar:—"Sir, there is good deal of force in what some of the hon. Members who have precede me have been saying. I believe it must be said that on the whole th Department of Agriculture has not been of much use so far as th masses are concerned. In fact it is the masses that require the hel of the department. I do not want to indulge in generalities, but I onl want to speak about the conditions which I happen to know personall: So far as my district is concerned, hon. Members are aware that it a district which has got the most alluvial soil, that is to say, blac cotton soil, and unfortunately we do not get sufficient rains. If God

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pleased to give us 14 inches of rain, we could have bumper harvests of groundnut and cotton which would probably mean more than the yield of Egypt or Soviet Russia or any other country in the world. But the difficulty is we do not get 14 inches of rain. If we get 14 inches of rain, not at one time but spread over four occasions at the rate of 3½ inches on each occasion, we could get bumper harvest of cotton and groundnut. Unfortunately we do not get that quantity of rain. That is the reason why we are getting famines often and it must certainly be said to the credit of the Government that whenever there are famines in our district, we are generously treated by the Government. Of course these remarks are not quite relevant to the subject under discussion. But what I want to emphasize is this: even when we expect a bumper harvest—I am referring to the money-producing crops of groundnut and cotton—unfortunately some pest comes in and destroys such crops. Well, Sir, is it not necessary that at that time the Agricultural department must rouse itself and come to the aid of the agriculturists and go about touring the whole district devising ways and means in order to see that the pest is removed at least to some extent, if not completely annihilated? I am sorry to say that this has not been done. I am not speaking of years before. What has happened in the month of January? We were expecting a very good crop. Thanks to Providence, we had sufficient rains and there was a good crop. But the pests came in and when they came in, the ryots became alarmed. They went to the Collector and also appealed to the Deputy Director of Agriculture who evidently found himself helpless. Then the people petitioned to the Agricultural authorities at Coimbatore and all that they said was that some experts had to investigate into the causes for the prevalence of this pest and find out remedies for the same. Of course you can easily conceive what amount of time these things will take—representations to the Deputy Director of Agriculture, representations to the Director of Agriculture and representations to the Agricultural authorities at Coimbatore. In the meantime the crops had gone. In the previous year we had no crops at all. This year we were expecting something. Now before the experts came and investigated and found out the remedies, half or three-fourths of the crops had gone. Of course I am not blaming the Hon. Minister for this, because he cannot be expected to do everything; and these are matters of detail. What I emphasize is: we have got a demonstrator, an agricultural inspector, an Assistant Director of Agriculture and a Deputy Director of Agriculture. These are all mere names. We do not know where they are and what they are doing. They are not in touch with the masses. I do not think I have heard at any time of their having convened any meeting of the ryots either in the mufassal areas or in taluks. I have never come across any single meeting convened by any of these important agricultural officers. I think I have a right to complain and certainly I am justified in complaining. The only way in which they can be of any use to the agriculturists is by convening meetings and advising them as to the ways and means by which they could better their prospects. They are not doing that.

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"I now appeal to the Hon. Minister to see that the Director of Agriculture discharges his duty by impressing upon his subordinates that it is one of their important and fundamental duties to go from village to village and from town to town in order to impress upon the agriculturists the ways and means by which they could improve their agricultural operations.

"Sir, I do not want to deal with the various other things. There is only one other thing which I would like to bring to the notice of the Hon. Minister. I believe that several hon. Members have noted the same thing in their own districts. We had what is known as prickly-pear which was considered to be very dangerous. This prickly-pear was said to be dangerous in a sense and was also supposed to be a breeding place for mosquitoes. The Agricultural department thought that by the destruction of this prickly-pear it would be able to improve the health of the rural population as well as the urban population. Well, for this purpose it found out an insect called 'cochineal insect' to destroy this prickly-pear and began to distribute those insects. Now as soon as these insects were distributed, all the prickly-pear disappeared. So far as my district is concerned, I do not find any prickly-pear now. It has disappeared. But this prickly-pear used to serve as fence previously. It used to keep away the animals which would otherwise intrude into the land and eat away the crops, but now that the prickly-pear is gone the natural fence is gone and in its place the people have not been taught how to fence their lands. We now find that the crops are eaten away by the wild animals and also by the domestic animals which on account of want of pasture go into these fields and cause damage to the crops. I would ask the Hon. Minister to bear this in mind and tell us by consulting the Agricultural department as to how we could find a natural fencing to protect these crops from being damaged by wild animals and other intruders.

"The next point I would like the Hon. Minister to bear in mind is this. Sir, the Marketing Bill has been passed but I do not know whether it has been of much use to us after all. That is a thing which requires a god deal of attention.

"Sir, so far as our district is concerned, though it is poor, though it is wanting in rains, yet we have some beautiful fruits growing there. I think probably—I do not know whether the Hon. Minister is aware, but I suppose some of the other hon. Members may be aware of this—that Bellary figs are noted, they are considered to be the best figs available in the Presidency. As a matter of fact, when people have been ill and are at the stage of improving, these Bellary figs are indented for and they are considered to be very excellent for health. They grow very luxuriantly in Bellary and round about Bellary. It is a most important fruit in Bellary. Sir, will it not be worth while to see that sufficient marketing facilities are given to this fruit? Could not some station be opened in order that these fruits may be gathered and then made available not only to the people of Bellary but also to the

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people in the other districts of the Presidency, because they have excellent nutritive and healing properties? Probably my hon. Friend from Cuddapah Mr. Koti Reddi may speak on this point. But I am sure he will certainly speak about Cuddapah melons. Probably there is not a single hon. Member here who has not eaten Cuddapah melons and who is not hungering for Cuddapah melons. There is a great field for this fruit here. If the department takes it into its head to conserve these resources and make them available to the people at large, it will be a source of profit, a good deal of profit, not only to the growers but to the department itself."

* Rao Sahib V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—" Mr. Deputy President, Sir, if I rise to speak on this occasion it is not with a view to criticize the policy of the Government or the administration of the department but simply to ask whether the results of some of the researches and experiments that have been carried on have been made available to the ryots and whether it is advisable to continue some of these experiments. Let us first take livestock. In page 17 of the Report of the Agricultural department we find the following:

'*Cross-bred herd.*—This herd has been considerably reduced. Most of the milch cattle of this herd are kept in Coimbatore to supply milk to the Agricultural College dairy.'

" Passing lower down we find in the Report:

'*Ongole herd.*—The breeding of this herd at Hosur was discontinued in 1933 . . .'

" Sir, there are other institutions working on the same line. In Ootacamund itself the Municipal Council some years back opened a dairy farm and brought cattle from Australia and other places. Now they have the Sindhi variety, the cross-bred, the Ongole herd and various other types. Seeing that the Agricultural department has not made much progress in this line, I ask, why not these local bodies which are interested in dairy farming and cattle-breeding be asked to keep a regular record of the progress of their livestock and make that record available to the people who are really interested in the matter? I know as a matter of fact that even in Erode our hon. Friend, Mr. Nallathambi Sarkarai Manradiyar, has got a very big cattle-breeding centre. If some assistance in the shape of a subsidy is given to him he may be asked to keep a regular record and I think it will be of advantage to the Government because they need not spend such a lot of money as Rs. 1,20,200 which is provided under this head.

" Passing on to my own district, the Government have been making researches in potatoes. A station was started some fifteen years ago and it has now been possible to bring varieties of seeds and supply them to the ryots. They also made experiments in manure and I would like to ask the Hon. Minister whether the results of those experiments have been made available to the ordinary ryots. Year before last I suggested to the Hon. Minister that bulletins may be issued regarding the results of these researches so that the ordinary ryot may usefully employ them

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for his own purpose. Sir, in reply to the general discussion on the budget the Hon. Minister was kind enough to say that as regards marketing facilities for potatoes he would refer the matter to the Imperial Government. Sir, the Government have started a research institution and they have been supplying good seeds to the ryots. They have also been experimenting on manuring potatoes. After all this, what is to become of the crop grown by the ryots if the Government should say that they could not give any marketing facilities? I know as a matter of fact that the Government are estimating to spend about Rs. 19,100 on a Marketing Officer. But unless something substantial is done to give these ryots proper marketing facilities for their potatoes, I am afraid there will be a great loss to them and great unemployment in the country. After the Government have started the research station from which they are supplying seeds, and where they are also carrying on experiments in manuring, a large number of ryots in the Nilgiris have taken to potato growing and they are producing a lot of potatoes month by month. Unless there are some facilities for marketing them, I am afraid the whole district will have to face unemployment. Therefore I would earnestly appeal to the Hon. Minister to see whether he could not approach the Imperial Government and do something to give these people increased marketing facilities. Even if the Bombay Presidency and the Madras Presidency were to utilize the potato crop raised on the Nilgiris, the problem will be solved.

"Sir, as regards fruit culture I find from the report that the Government have done something fruitful. Reading through the report I find that they have found out a new system of pruning apple trees. It is stated that 'a new system of pruning apple trees by cutting off lateral shoots before the dormant period was found an undoubted success and is being tried on English pears as well.' Knowing as we do that the Nilgiris is a district which has got large avenues for fruit culture, if this system that has been found successful is given out to the people who are really interested in the matter of fruit culture, it will go a long way to help them. The ryots had great difficulty in finding a suitable stock to which the apple and pear can be grafted. This report says:

> 'It was found that apple as a stock for pear unites readily while Loquat is a successful stock for the apple and pear.'

"The Government have been able to train some experts in grafting and if the services of these experts are given to the people who are really interested in fruit culture, it will be of great help to them. I would earnestly appeal to the Hon. Minister to look into the question of getting marketing facilities for the potato crop grown on the Nilgiris. I think my hon. Friend, Mr. Ari Gowder, who will speak later on will also point out the great difficulty caused to the ryots for want of proper marketing facilities and convince the Hon. Minister about it."

* Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—"Mr. Deputy President, Sir, the hon. the Mover of the motion under discussion began his speech by saying that agriculture forms the main occupation of the bulk of the people in this country, that the State derives a very large part of its revenue from

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agriculture and yet it spends only a very small part of its funds for the improvement and development of agriculture in this Province. I must admit, Sir, that the observation of my hon. Friend is perfectly true. The agriculture budget amount is only Rs. 19 and odd lakhs which means only a little over 1 per cent of the entire expenditure of this Government. Sir, at the time of retrenchment the agriculture budget amounted to Rs. 20 lakhs and though we have restored several items which were cut down at that time we have not yet reached that amount here. In the year 1929, a reorganization scheme was sanctioned by the Government with the idea of carrying out as many of the recommendations of the Agricultural Commission as possible and it was expected that this would cost about Rs. 8¾ lakhs in a period of ten years for which a programme was laid out. This reorganization scheme was shelved later on. Probably it was due to measures of retrenchment.

" Sir, my hon. Friend next went on to speak about agricultural education. I find from the administration report that the number of young men applying for admission into the Agricultural College is becoming reduced year after year. I do not know whether any information is collected regarding the way in which the students who go out of the Agricultural College are employed. I find that in the United Provinces the Director of Agriculture is asked to circularize the students who go out of the colleges and find out how they are employed. I 3 P.M. suppose, Sir, that all our agricultural graduates are anxious to get at least low-paid jobs; most of them are unwilling to go back to the land and settle down as practical farmers. Has it been found out why these people who receive practical training in agriculture are unwilling to take to forming? Is it on account of want of capital? Is it due to lack of enterprise or is it due to the fact that agriculture has ceased to be a paying profession?

" I do not agree with my Friend, Mr. Arasu, in his sweeping condemnation of the Agricultural department. The Agricultural department has done a great deal of good work by introducing new strains of various crops and demonstrating improved methods of cultivation. I should think, Sir, that all the attempts of the Agricultural department to induce people to take to scientific methods of agriculture will not hereafter be useful unless they can secure better prices for the products of agriculture. Take, for instance, paddy and rice; we find that the exports from this province have dwindled down. From this country we were exporting paddy and rice to Ceylon and the Strait Settlements and even to Great Britain and Germany. These exports have decreased; on the other hand, foreign rice is being dumped into our country from Siam and Indo-China. Burma rice is flooding our markets. Unless this Government is able to put pressure upon the Central Government and effective tariff barriers are put upon imports of rice and measures are taken to raise the price of our agricultural produce, we cannot expect to make the ryots take to improved methods

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of cultivation which the department is trying to propagate. That seems to be the crux of the problem, raising the prices of agricultural products. I should think that this department should concentrate on the work of finding out what more remunerative crops can be grown in each area by an analysis of the soils and by making a survey.

"My Friend, Mr. Arasu, observed that the results of research should be brought to the doors of the ryot. In order to do this, we must have a large number of agricultural demonstrators and a sufficient number of agricultural maistris under them. I am glad to note in the budget that provision has been made for increasing the number of agricultural demonstrators. I do hope we shall soon be able to have one demonstrator in each taluk and that Government will increase the number of maistris also so that each agricultural demonstrator can have two or three maistris under him.

"The work done in regard to the improvement of livestock falls far short of the requirements. Sir, at the time of retrenchment the Agricultural Breeding Stations at Chintaladevi and Guntur were closed down and the work has now been concentrated at Hosur where they are concentrating upon breeding better types of draught cattle. I suppose a small dairy herd is maintained at Coimbatore. We require more breeding stations, particularly one on the West Coast where conditions are different from the East Coast; we want a breeding station to be established in South Kanara. The number of breeding bulls entertained under the premium system is also very small. I think only about a 100 breeding bulls are now maintained. If we are to have one breeding bull for each taluk, we shall require about 110 more breeding bulls to be maintained under this system.

"I think there is no use in cataloguing the various needs of this department. The needs are many and the funds are limited. The Hon. Minister is a man of good intentions; but it is no use having good intentions; even hell is said to be paved with good intentions. I should think that he ought to fight with the Finance Department and get more funds for this most important work of agricultural improvement and development in this province."

* Mr. K. Koti Reddi:—"Sir, I do not want to take up much of the time of the House. Moreover there is no use offering any remarks as they are not heeded. As hon. Members have already pointed out, the very existence and prosperity of this province depends on the proper working of this department. There is no other country in the world, barring China, which so much depends on agriculture. Anything that is done towards the development of agriculture will certainly go towards the prosperity of the country. I do not think it is necessary for me to go into details. I know that the rate of production per acre in this country is small compared with other countries. As has been pointed out by an hon. Member, in a comparatively less civilized country like Egypt, the production of cotton is nearly three times what it is in India; the production of wheat

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in Great Britain is something like seven or eight times what it is in this country. The production of rice in Japan is more than twice what it is in this country. I do not know why serious attempts should not be made to increase production in this country also. The amount that is provided for research in this province is very small, compared with the amounts spent in countries like America and Japan; it is infinitely small. In America lakhs and lakhs of rupees are spent on research work in the matter of agriculture. Attempts should be made to increase the quantity of production per acre. I must say that the results of research, small as they are, have not been brought home to the villager. You may say that there is much information in the agricultural calendars that are published every year and sent to Members of the Legislative Council and to village munsifs and karnams. But so far as the ryot is concerned, he knows nothing. At the times of festivals and fairs some demonstration is given. I do not know if people who go to these festivals care to attend the lectures that are given then. I think serious attempts should be made to bring home to the villager the results of researches that are carried on by the Agricultural department. It seems to me that the number of demonstrators in the province is very small.

"I wish to point out that more than Rs. 1 lakh is spent on the College of Agriculture; the number of students that are trained there every year is only 30 to 40. We also find that the number of applicants for admission into the College for the last two or three years has been dwindling. I think the Government should investigate the matter. I find that many of those who are trained in the Agricultural College go in for appointments in Government service rather than make use of their knowledge by setting up their own farms. Why is it so? It seems to be that agriculture does not pay even for the man who has been trained in the Agricultural College. That is probably one reason. Another reason is that the salaries in Government service are very attractive, so that nobody likes to risk starting a farm of his own as against securing a decent job under Government. Once I offered perhaps a very small salary to a person who has passed out of the Agricultural College. I thought it would attract a man who has passed out of the Agricultural College. I first offered him a salary of Rs. 40 per mensem with some hope of increment. He accepted a job in the Government department on less salary. The Government offered only Rs. 30 as against the Rs. 40 I offered. He preferred Government service because he thought he would get increments. That shows that many candidates who come out of the Agricultural College have no idea of making use of their knowledge and improving their own farms. Very few people who come out of the Agricultural College have farms of their own. Perhaps the College does not attract people who own farms. I do not know why it is so. If the Agricultural College is really imparting useful knowledge as to how to improve the quality and quantity of production, I am sure many people who have farms would join the College and improve their own farms instead of trying to get Government appointments. So I think it is time that Government investigated into the matter; the

Government should see if there is any necessity to improve the kind of education that is imparted in the College with a view to attract sons of farmers, who will improve their own farms after they get out of the College.

"Although the number of demonstrators in the province has increased to a small extent, it is absolutely inadequate. There ought to be at least one demonstrator for each firka. We find that there is one demonstrator for each taluk in districts other than the Ceded districts. The number of demonstrators in the Ceded districts is very small. The Government should appoint at least one demonstrator for each taluk.

"I wish to make a few remarks with regard to fruit cultivation. Thanks are due to the Government for having after all located the Fruit Research station in the Cuddapah district. I think it is due to the merits of the district rather than to any other reason. You are probably aware that most of the fruits, especially oranges called 'Chini,' that are imported into the city are mainly from the Cuddapah district. The Government have done the right thing in locating the fruit station in the Rajampet taluk of the Cuddapah district. But I find that the amount of money that is provided for research at that station is not much, compared with what other provinces are providing. The quantity of fruits produced in this province is very little compared with what is grown in other provinces. It has been found by experts that fruit ought to form an essential item of diet, but, Sir, how many people do or can buy fruits now? They are a small number. There is every facility for developing the fruit industry in this province, if Government will only give the necessary help. The whole of the Rajampet taluk could be developed for this purpose. If only the ryots of that taluk are induced to concentrate their attention on the fruit industry, they will not only benefit themselves but benefit the province also. In this connexion, I would appeal to the Hon. the Law Member to give us a thermal station for supplying electricity at least to that particular taluk. This taluk has no perennial source of water supply; it depends to a certain extent on tanks and to a large extent on wells. If only electricity is made available to the ryots of the taluk—and as I have already pointed out, any amount of fuel can be had from the forests nearby for the thermal station—it would be possible to make the ryots concentrate on fruit-growing.

"As regards Cuddapah melons, about which my friend wants me to speak, I won't say much. Most of the people who grow the melons are very poor. As they have to grow them on the bed of the river Penniar, they are taking great risks, as the plants are washed off if there are early rains. If the Government will only help them by guaranteeing against such risks, I think they will grow these melons in larger quantities for the benefit of many towns.

"There is one important fact to which I would draw the attention of Government. The Nilgiri Hills may be reserved for the cultivation

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of one or two kinds of fruits such as apples and pears. Instead of having tea plantations there—which tea is exported mostly to foreign countries, perhaps for the benefit of nobody—we can cultivate oranges, green vegetables like peas, cabbage, etc., which are not grown in other places and if means can be found for cheap transport, I am quite sure we will be benefited a great deal. I request Government to bestow some attention on this matter.

" Lastly, I may refer to the question of fragmentation of holdings. This problem is becoming more and more serious and any steps that the Government take in consolidating these holdings, will be a blessing. I think, Sir, that for this purpose, a committee of officials and non-officials—after all the Government may not have all the necessary information with them—may be appointed in order to investigate the question and make recommendations as to how best to bring about a consolidation of holdings, economic farmings and on other allied questions."

* The Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—" Sir, I quite agree with the views expressed by most of the hon. Members that in any country, especially in a country like ours, which is mainly agricultural, it must be the aim of both the Government and the people to see that the maximum amount of yield is derived from land with the minimum amount of expenditure. In that view, the department has been trying to help the ryots by adopting the following methods: (1) better strains, (2) improved tillage, (3) green manuring, and (4) economic planting. We have been advocating these methods and giving the ryots all possible help. By using better strains, we can get an increased yield of 10 to 15 per cent; by adopting improved tillage, we can get an increase of 2 to 3 per cent; by applying green manure, we can get 8 to 10 per cent of increased yield; and last but not least, by adopting economic planting, we can get 5 to 10 per cent. In all, by adopting these improved methods advocated by the department and demonstrated by its officers, any one who owns land or takes to cultivation or agriculture as his profession, can increase the yield by 25 to 35 per cent; and if only the people adopt these methods, not only will they increase their own income, but they will also be adding to the national wealth of this province. I may say that even if they cannot get improved yield, at least they can reduce the cost of cultivation. Personally, I feel that by adopting the improved methods, they can get both; and even if both cannot be had for any reason, at least one of them can be achieved.

" Intimately and immediately connected with the problem of agriculture is the problem of marketing; it has assumed great importance on account of the depression. It has been the work of the department till recently only to advocate and suggest ways and means of increasing the yield, and not to find facilities for disposing of the produce of the ryots. That work also is being taken up now; with the help of the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research, the marketing conditions of agricultural produce are being surveyed; and when the results are made available by that body, I dare say there will be greater facilities

afforded to the people to dispose of their produce. As far as the Local Government are concerned, they are doing their bit to improve marketing conditions. I may cite the instance of the Commercial Crops Market Act which has been given effect to and put in operation this year in Tiruppur. I believe that Act is going to help those engaged in cotton. If the results are found satisfactory, that Act will be extended to other areas, not only in regard to cotton, but in regard to other crops also. These are the two problems to which, as I said, the department is paying as much attention as it possibly can, within the limited means, both of finance and men, at its disposal.

"Coming now to details, Sir, my Friend Mr. Premayya told us that year after year he has been urging on the Government the need for giving an agricultural bias to our education. As I have pointed out to him on more than one occasion, that could be done only with the co-operation of the Education department, if the scheme is to be given effect to on any large scale. So far as the Department of Agriculture is concerned, it has made experiments in two or three places, one at Anakapalle and another at Taliparamba in the West Coast, but they had to be closed for want of attendance. There are at present two schools, one a middle school at Usilampatti and another at Muttanendal, where they are trying to teach agriculture to students. If other institutions can do likewise and if they want any help from the department, it will be given freely. My friend also referred to the institution at Kalahasti. An attempt was made to open a school there, but owing to want of buildings, the school could not be opened; but a demonstration farm is there which is giving the necessary help in that area.

"In dealing with agricultural education, apart from the education given to students in the Agricultural College, recently a simpler course has been instituted for helping those who wish to take to agriculture so that after learning something in the college, they can utilize their knowledge for their own purpose. That course was introduced about three years ago and I may tell hon. Members that it is fairly popular; and if we find there is a greater demand, steps will be taken to give more facilities. We have also made it known to the agriculturists that they could send some of their men to the various Government farms situated in the districts so that several improved methods of agriculture could be taught to them in the farms. Attached to the Coimbatore farm, we have a school which gives education to the children of the employees in agriculture also. There are also one or two similar schools elsewhere.

"Coming to the college itself, in recent years, applications for admission into the college have gone down and for this reason, that the Government are not recruiting or employing the graduates of that institution to the extent they have done hitherto. That is why we have the unemployment problem among these graduates. There has not been so much demand for admission to the college for the last one or two years. My hon. Friend suggested that these graduates should be given lands so that they might use their knowledge to their own benefit and to the

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benefit of their neighbours. I might in this connexion say that when the Chintaladevi cattle farm in the Nellore district was closed down as a measure of retrenchment and when that farm and the lands there could not be sold, the Director of Agriculture tried to get some students to go and settle down there and take to farming; we also offered them the necessary financial help through the co-operative societies; but no one would come forward—either ordinary graduates or Agricultural graduates —to take advantage of that offer and utilize their knowledge for their own benefit and that of others also. Unfortunately, our students whether they come from the Arts colleges or from the professional colleges, what they look to is employment under Government. Our students have not that village sense, so to speak, in them to go back to the village and improve the lands and make village life more attractive. That is the whole difficulty. If only our students could bring themselves to go to the village and utilize their learning and experience, it will be extremely useful from the point of view of the nation. That they do not do so is very regrettable and I hope the depression which has given so much trouble to one and all will persuade at least some of them to try that experiment.

"Sir, my Friend, Mr. Premayya, said that people should be persuaded to take to poultry farming, bee-hiving, pig-rearing and so on. In the districts—at least in a number of the southern districts—I know people have taken to poultry farming and bee-hiving and are benefiting by them; and in the Coimbatore district, people have taken to the breeding of pigs and till the slump or the depression came in, the trade in that line has been very profitable. Wherever the department can help in the matter of giving facilities for poultry farming, bee-hiving, and other cottage industries, we will be only too glad to do so. About six months back, an experiment was started in a village near Madras—Velacheri—where agricultural operations are being carried on a co-operative basis; and other improvements are being effected to make that village an ideal one. A demonstrator has been put in sole charge of this work; and on one or two occasions when I visited the village, I saw that the improvements which we have suggested have been adopted by the people willingly; and ere long I hope it will become a model one. When that happens, I am sure other villages also will copy those methods and profit by them.

"Sir, my Friend, Mr. Basu Dev, said that the Agricultural department is the only department where they do not take the advice, help and co-operation of non-officials. He suggested that agricultural associations should be started all over the districts. I may tell my hon. Friend that there are one or two associations which are doing good work and if more associations could be started elsewhere, the department will be only too glad to have the co-operation and advice of such associations; and we shall be only too glad to give them all the help that is necessary.

"My hon. Friend, Mr. Arasu, the other day said that the department has done practically nothing, but he was good enough to admit

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that the department has done something in the way of research and demonstration. I suppose, if he means what he says, the statement that the department has done next to nothing has no basis. After all, our work is to carry out research and to tell the people 'these are the results of our research work, please adopt them; and if you do that, you will benefit by them'; and in order to demonstrate to the people, we have got demonstrators appointed to carry out and demonstrate in a practical manner to the ryots in their own lands the results of such researches. My friend said that I have no business to quote the authority of Mr. Sivasubrahmanya Ayyar as against the statement made by him. If it is a question of sitting in judgment on the technical and research work of the department, I dare say people more competent than either Mr. Sivasubrahmanya Ayyar or Mr. Arasu are needed, but as to the utility and usefulness of the department no one is better qualified to speak than Mr. Sivasubrahmanya Ayyar and others who are landholders. They could naturally appreciate the work and help rendered by the department than others. (Mr. V. T. Arasu: 'I spoke about the Director.') My friend says, he spoke about the Director. The Director cannot do much unless he has the co-operation and help of the department; and the Director represents the department; any compliment paid to him means a compliment to the department also. As far as I am concerned, my business as Minister is to put the right sort of men in the right places and allow them to carry on the work.

"That apart, Sir, my friend read out some figures. I should like to say that some of them are ancient, though they are printed even in recent reports. He said that there is a difference in the yield of the various crops in 1919 and 1935. He has taken one or two years, but he has not taken into consideration the seasonal and other factors which are responsible for the small yield and which affect cultivation. After all, these figures are not absolutely accurate. I would only invite the attention of my hon. Friend to the administration reports of the department for the past five years and ask him to go through them carefully where he would find that by adopting the suggestions of the department, people have benefited to a considerable extent."

The DEPUTY PRESIDENT:—"I may remind the Hon. Minister that his time is up."

* The Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—"Sir, my time is up and so unfortunately I am not in a position to meet my friend Mr. Arasu's other remarks. I shall bear the suggestions of my other hon. Friends and examine them very carefully. Before I sit down, I must refer to the remarks of hon. Friend Mr. Muniswami Pillai. I am supposed to have said that this Government could not give the people of the Nilgiris the marketing facilities they are in need of as regards potatoes. (Rao Sahib V. I. Muniswami Pillai: 'What I said was in regard to the question of imposing a duty.') I told him, Sir, that this is not a matter under the cognizance of this Government but it is in the hands of the Government of India. As I said then, we would convey to that Government the wishes expressed by some members of this Council. As regards

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the facilities that could be offered by the Local Government. the departments of Agriculture and Co-operation have considered the question and as a result of their investigation a co-operative society has been formed in order to supply manure to the ryots. The question of sending potatoes from Ooty and Coonoor to Mettupalaiyam by lorries is engaging the attention of the authorities as also the question of giving them godown facilities. I may once more assure my hon. Friends, Sir, that I will be only too glad to go through their suggestions and examine them carefully."

The cut motion was by leave withdrawn.

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XXII—CIVIL VETERINARY SERVICES—TRANSFERRED.

* The Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—" Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I move—

'*that Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs.* 9,28,500 *under Demand XXII—Civil Veterinary Services—Transferred.*' "

Mr. K. KOTI REDDI:—" I move—

'*To reduce the allotment of Rs.* 19,500 *for Veterinary—Direction —Pay of Establishments by Rs.* 100.'

" Sir, I move this in order to draw the attention of the Government to the fact that they have not so far replied to one complaint that I have been making in this Council for the last two years, viz., that Government has made no attempt to study and introduce the indigenous system of treating the diseases of cattle. No doubt there is the Veterinary College where University courses are now given. A number of doctors stationed at various places in the presidency are treating cattle diseases and inoculating them for prevention of diseases. But I believe, Sir, that a vast majority of cattle in this presidency are not within the jurisdiction of the veterinary medical aid given by the Government. For most of these cattle that are now susceptible to diseases, the first aid is given through generally some form of indigenous medicines. I want the Government to investigate the question how for the remedies that are now given by indigenous medicines are effective and how far they can be incorporated into the system that is now administered by the Government doctors. I know some of them are very effective and they cost very little. Each village has at least one villager who is ordinarily acquainted with a few of the remedies. They cost very little because most of the remedies are a sort of juice extracted from some herb. Such herbs are available near the village or somewhere near in the hills. I need not give any illustrations. What I said and again say is that just as the system of Indian medicine administered to human beings has been taken up by the Government, though after long agitation, I want the Government also to take steps in the direction of reviving and utilizing the knowledge of indigenous system of medicine for treating diseases of cattle. The system is, I believe, effective and less costly than the

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treated free. In some cases they collect fees. I would strongly urge that it should not be the policy of the Government to collect fees for the treatment of these dumb animals. If you begin to collect fees, it so happens that the owners of the cattle are not willing to bring the animals to the hospitals for slight affections, and they think that they can treat them themselves without any expenditure whatsoever and thereby have the disease cured. If an animal is allowed to be so treated locally for some time, the disease is not cured and when it is ultimately taken to the hospital it takes a serious form, and it is often found very difficult to have the animal cured completely. Thus, the practice of charging fees at least to some extent stands in the way of the treatment of these animals at the hospitals on a larger scale. After all by these collections, I do not think the Government are getting any appreciable amount, and so they can very well forego this small amount and save the animals from being put to much difficulty.

"Then, Sir, with regard to the inoculation of these animals, I would urge that the Government should take prompt action in the matter. As I have already pointed out, it often happens when a contagious disease is spreading, that the departmental officers get the information very late and come to the rescue of the people oftentimes after the disease has played a lot of havoc. If the officers can get information immediately and rush to the spot and give inoculation, I think it will be possible to save the lives of a very large number of cattle and thus reduce cattle mortality. After all, for the agriculturists the main property is their cattle, and without cattle they cannot carry on any of their agricultural operations. So it is quite essential that in order to safeguard the interests of the agriculturists, the main item of their property should be properly looked after.

"With regard to the production of serum, I find that the Government are not producing a sufficient quantity of the various varieties in the local institute itself. I think they are indenting for them from outside also. I remember to have seen somewhere that they are doing so but I speak subject to correction. My impression is that we are no producing enough serum of different types required for all our pur poses. If we are purchasing from outside, it will be at a much highe cost, and if higher cost is to be paid, it is evident that we would not b able to provide for enough number of cattle being inoculated. So, would urge that the Hon. Minister should see his way to get enoug quantity of serum for our purposes prepared in our own instituti itself. Then only we will be able to meet the entire demand and ha the inoculation done in as wide an area as possible. I hope the Ho Minister will bestow some attention on this question.

"With these words, Sir, I urge once more that the Hon. Minis should see that this department is made effective use of by the ryots a is made more popular so that the animals may get the relief of wh they are greatly in need."

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* Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—" Mr. Deputy President, Sir, my hon. Friend Mr. Nachiyappa Gounder referred to the Serum Institute and said that the Government are getting some serum from outside, and that this ought not to be done but that they should manufacture the serum necessary here only. Sir, this is the first and probably the only province which has started such a serum institute and for this we must give due credit to the Hon. the Minister. This institute was started for manufacturing anti-rinderpest serum. There is very little demand for this serum now because a smaller dose is used and also because they are extending the use of the goat virus vaccine for rinderpest. But there has been an increasing demand this year for black-quarter serum and vaccine and for Hæmorrhagic Septicæmia serum. The Hon. Minister is bringing forward a Supplementary Demand to-morrow for the increased provision necessary for getting this serum from the Muktesar Institute. Now that there is less demand for anti-rinderpest serum, the Serum Institute which we have started can very well take to the manufacture of serum and vaccine necessary for combating the diseases of Hæmorrhagic Septicæmia and blackquarter. We shall be getting serum at a cheaper cost if we manufacture it at the Serum Institute in this place.

" Sir, I find in the report that there is a proposal to put off the institution of the degree course in the Veterinary College on account of the imposition of certain conditions and on account of some additional expenditure involved in the matter. I wish to know from the Hon. Minister when this degree course will be introduced. Sir, we have in this province only a three-year diploma course. In the Punjab they have, I believe, a four-year course, and all other countries have got five-year courses. So it is very desirable that we should give a high standard of training in veterinary matters and extend the veterinary course to five years as in other countries. We must send a sufficient number of men abroad so that they may get higher training in veterinary science. The laboratory of the Veterinary College must also be developed so as to make it possible to carry on research work, especially in parasitic diseases."

The DEPUTY PRESIDENT:—" The hon. Member may continue his speech on the 27th."

The House then adjourned to meet again at 11 a.m. the next day.

D. K. V. RAGHAVA VARMA,
Acting Secretary to the Legislative Council.

Appendix I.

[Vide answer to question No. 1016 asked by Mrs. A. Rukmani Lakshmipathi at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 25th March 1936, page 847 supra.]

Statement.

Name of prisoner.	Jail in which confined.	Name of the Superintendent.	Date on which the warrant of release was received in the jail.	Date of release.	Remarks.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
1 O. Ramachandrayya.	Central Jail, Vellore.	Major C. S. V. Ramanan, I.M.S.	1st October 1935.	1st October 1935.	There was no delay in the release of the prisoners.
2 C. Satyanarayana Chari	Do.	Do.	Do.	Do.	
3 Chella Appa Rao ..	Do.	Do.	3rd October 1935.	3rd October 1935.	
4 Nanduri Narasimhachari.	Do.	Do.	Do.	Do.	
5 Vadlamani Sri Ramamurthi.	Do.	Do.	Do.	Do.	
6 Appanaboyina Sundaram.	Central Jail, Cannanore.	Major G. S. Gill, I.M.S.	4th October 1935.	4th October 1935.	

Appendix II.

[Vide answer to question No. 1023 asked by Diwan Bahadur M. Gopalaswami Mudaliyar at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 25th March 1936, page 851 supra.]

Statement showing the Standing Committees constituted by District Boards under section 27-A of the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920.

Name of the district board.	Nature of the committees constituted under section 27-A.
(1)	(2)
Anantapur	Education Standing Committee.
West Godavari	None.
Trichinopoly	Education Committee. Works Committee.
Ongole	None.
Ramnad	Do.
South Kanara	Do.
Chingleput	Education Committee. Works Committee.
Chittoor	Education Committee. Works Committee.
Tiruvannamalai	None.
Vellore	Do.
Nellore	Do.
East Tanjore	Do.

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Name of the district board. (1)	Nature of the committees constituted under section 27-A. (2)
Bobbili	Education Committee. Works Committee.
Salem	Education Committee. Works Committee.
Nilgiris	Education Committee. Works Committee.
Chicacole	None.
South Arcot	*Do.*
Tinnevelly	Education Committee. Works Committee.
Ganjam	None.
Tanjore	Education Committee. Works Committee.
Bellary	None.
Malabar	Education Committee.
Coimbatore	Education Committee (Elected but not functioning).
Madura	Education Committee. Works Committee.

THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF THE GOVERNOR OF MADRAS.

Thursday, the 26th March 1936.

The House met at eleven of the clock, Mr. President (the Hon. Mr. B. Ramachandra Reddi) in the Chair.

PRESENT :

Reddi Nayudu, Kt., The Hon. Rai Bahadur Sir K. V.
Pannirselvam, The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T.
Souter, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., I.C.S., The Hon. Sir Charles.
Bracken, C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S., The Hon. Mr. G. T. H.
Raja of Bobbili, K.C.I.E., The Hon. the.
Rajan, The Hon. Mr. P. T.
Kumaraswami Reddiyar, The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S.
Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur.
Ahmed Meeran Sahib Bahadur, A. M.
Alamelumangathayaramma, Mrs. K.
Annamalai Chettiyar, Mr. S. A. A.
Appadurai Pillai, Diwan Bahadur A.
Arasu, Mr. V. T.
Ari Gowder, Mr. H. B.
Basheer Ahmed Sayeed Sahib Bahadur.
Basu Dev, Mr. C.
Beyabani Sahib Bahadur, S. M. K.
Dalavoi, Mr. R.
Devadasan, Mr. M.
Dharmalingam Pillai, Rao Sahib V.
Duraiswami Reddiyar, Mr. K. M.
Ellappa Chettiyar, Diwan Bahadur S.
Foulkes, Mr. G. F. F.
Gopalaswami Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur M.
Halasyam Ayyar, Mr. N.
Hood, Mr. H. M.
Indrayya, Mr. C.
Iswaran Pillai, Mr. I. C.
Jagannatham, Mr. H. M.
Jayaram Nayudu, Rao Sahib C.
Jones, I.C.S., Mr. C. E
Kesavaramamurti Nayudu, Mr. K.
Kolanda Reddi, Rai Sahib C.
Koti Reddi, Mr. K.
Krishnamurti, Rao Bahadur D.
Madanagopal Nayudu, Mr. R.
Mahboob Ali Baig Sahib Bahadur.
Manikkavelu Navakar, Mr. M. A.
Moidoo, Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur T. M.
Moses, Mr. P. C.
Muhammad Meera Ravuttar Bahadur, K. P. V. S.
Munuswami Pillai, Rao Sahib V. I.
Nachiyappa Gounder, Mr. K. A.
Nanjappa Bahadur, Rao Bahadur Subadar-Major S. A.
Narasa Reddi, Mr. T.
Narasimhaswami, Rao Sahib D. V.
Narayanan Nambiyar, Mr. V. P.
Natesa Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur C.
Obi Reddi, Mr. C.
Palat, Mr. R. M.
Patnaik Mahasayo, Sriman M. G.
Patro, K.C.I.E., Rao Bahadur Sir A. P.
Pattagar of Palayakottai, The.
Peddi Raju, Mr. P.
Pocker Sahib Bahadur, B.
Premayya, Mr. G. R.
Rajagopala Pillai, Mr. P. V.
Raja of Kallikote, The.
Ramachandra Padayachi, Mr. P. K.
Ramakrishna Reddi, Mr. A.
Ramalingam Chettiyar, Diwan Bahadur T. A.
Ramamurti, Rao Sahib Pandit Ganala.
Raman Menon, Mr. K. P.
Ramaswami Ayyar, Mr. T. S.
Rameswara Rao, Mr. G.
Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. A.
Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. G.
Ranganatham, Mr. N.
Rangaswami Reddi, Mr. M. B.
Ratnavelu Thevar, Mr. P.
Reid, Mr. D. M.
Rukmani Lakshmipathi, Mrs. A.
Russell, I.C.S., Mr. T. B.
Schamnad Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur Mahmud.
Scott Brown, I.C.S., Mr. W.
Shetty, Mr. A. B.
Simhachalam Pantulu, Mr. G.
Siva Raj, Rao Sahib N.
Smith, Mr. J. M.
Sreshta, Mr. M. S.
Srinivasa Ayyangar, Mr. T. C.
Srinivasan, Diwan Bahadur R.
Sriramulu, Mr. G.
Subbarayan, Dr. P.
Subrahmanya Bhatt, Mr. U. C.
Sundara Rao Nayudu, Mr. T.
Syed Tajuddin Sahib Bahadur, Khan Sahib.

PRESENT—*cont.*

Thangal, Mr. P. M.
Uzielli, C.I.E., I.C.S., Mr. H. R.
Vasudeva Pillai, Mr. V. G.
Venkatarama Ayyar, Mr. K. R.
Venugopal Nayudu, Rao Bahadur R. K.
Wright, Sir William.
Yahya Ali Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur.
Yakub Hasan Sahib Bahadur.
Zamindar of Bodinayakkanur, The.
Zamindar of Chemudu, The.
Zamindar of Kirlampudi, The.

I.—SWEARING IN OF NEW MEMBER.

Sriman M. G. PATNAIK Mahasayo made the prescribed affirmation *of allegiance to the Crown and took his seat as a special Member.*

II.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS

Education

Employment of an unqualified teacher as Technical Expert for conducting the Technical Teacher's Certificate Examination in Typewriting.

* 1033 *Q.*—Mr. N. HALASYAM AYYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that in the Examination for Technical Teacher's Certificate in Typewriting, held in December 1935 in Trichinopoly, the technical expert who assisted the District Educational Officer in the conduct of the examination is himself an unqualified teacher and does not possess the Technical Teacher's Certificate; and

(*b*) whether it is a fact that the candidates that underwent this examination were made to teach the students assembled a number of questions which were more like testing the knowledge of mechanism possessed by the candidates than like testing their teaching capacity?

A.—The Government have no information.

Mr. N. HALASYAM AYYAR:—"Will the Hon. Minister be pleased to call for the information required?"

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"The difficulty is this: all the questions which have been asked have to be answered before the Council is prorogued. There was no time to get the information. If the hon. Member will repeat the question in the next session I will try to get the information."

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—"May I know whether an unqualified person is competent to conduct this examination?"

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"Government have no information. I don't see any use in pursuing this question."

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Proposals for opening secondary grade training section in the Government Training School at Cauvery-Mettur.

* 1034 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any proposals have been submitted either by the Headmaster of the Government Training School at Mettur or the District Educational Officer, Salem, to the Director of Public Instruction, or by the latter to the Government for opening secondary grade training section in the Government Training School at Cauvery-Mettur;

(*b*) if so, when and what action has been or is proposed to be taken thereon; and

(*c*) what the number of secondary grade pupil teachers admitted from Salem district in each of the Training schools at Coimbatore, Vellore, Trichinopoly, Dindigul, etc., are where there is secondary grade training section?

A.—(*a*) No.

(*b*) Does not arise.

(*c*) The following table gives the number of secondary grade students from Salem admitted in 1935–36 in the Government Training Schools in other neighbouring districts:—

Government Training School for Masters, Dindigul	10
Government Training School for Masters, Tanjore	1
Government Training School for Masters, Trichinopoly	...
Secondary Training Department attached to the Government College, Coimbatore.	16

There is no Training School for Masters at Vellore.

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—"May I know whether it is not a fact that the Director of Public Instruction is favourably inclined with regard to this proposal?"

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"There is no such proposal pending at present. So far as I can recollect, the Director of Public Instruction is opposed to it."

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—"May I ask whether it is not desirable to have such a training section opened in view of the fact that from this district there are more than 25 students of this grade undergoing training in various schools?"

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"The Government do not think so."

Medical Administration

Appointment of Mr. Ramakrishnan as Professor of Bacteriology, Madras Medical College.

* 1035 *Q.*—Mr. W. P. A. Soundarapandiyan: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there were any advertisements calling for applications to fill up the post of Professor of Bacteriology in the Madras Medical College;

(*b*) whether the Madras Public Services Commission was consulted in the matter and, if so, what their recommendations were;

(*c*) if not, who recommended Mr. Ramakrishnan for the appointment;

(*d*) whether there was a condition attached to Mr. Ramakrishnan's appointment that he should obtain higher qualifications before confirmation;

(*e*) whether there were no qualified men in the service at that time;

(*f*) whether the Professor of Bacteriology is permitted private practice; and

(*g*) whether Mr. Ramakrishnan is personally allowed to practise?

A.—(*a*) There were no advertisements calling for applications to fill up the post of Professor of Bacteriology in the Madras Medical College created in 1928.

(*b*) There was no necessity to consult the Madras Services Commission as the Madras Services Commission came into being only in 1930.

(*c*) M.R.Ry. S. Ramakrishnan Avargal was appointed Professor of Bacteriology by the Government on the recommendation of the Surgeon-General.

(*d*) No. It is not clear what higher qualifications he could be asked to seek.

(*e*) There was no other person in the service with the necessary higher qualifications and teaching experience.

(*f*) & (*g*) The Professor of Bacteriology, Medical College, Madras, is allowed special private practice, involving the bacteriological treatment of the diseases. M.R.Ry. S. Ramakrishnan Avargal is allowed restricted practice as defined above.

Mr. V. T. Arasu:—"May I know the qualifications of this Mr. Ramakrishnan?"

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar:—"Notice."

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Alleged canvassing for private practice by doctors employed in the Government General Hospital, Madras.

* 1036 *Q.*—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any instances of doctors in the General Hospital compelling patients in their wards to get out of the hospital and undergo private treatment under them have been brought to the notice of the Government;

(*b*) if so, what enquiry has been made in the matter and with what result; and

(*c*) whether Government propose to take any steps to prevent such occurrences in future?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) An allegation of the kind referred to in clause (*a*) was received and the Superintendent of the Government General Hospital, Madras, who made an investigation in the matter found that the allegation was groundless.

(*c*) In view of the answer to clauses (*a*) and (*b*) this question does not arise.

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—" May I request the Hon. Minister to call for the case-sheet of the patient from Dr. Krishnaswami who admitted him into Rayapuram Hospital on the very day he was sent out of the General Hospital? "

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" The Surgeon-General having made a very careful enquiry, I don't think any further investigation is called for."

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—" May I know whether the allegation was not against the Superintendent of the General Hospital? "

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" I have no information beyond what is contained in the answer."

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—" In view of the fact, Sir, that the patient was admitted that very day into Royapuram Hospital, may I request the Hon. Minister to make some further enquiry, and call for the papers and find out from the case-sheet whether the patient was in a fit state to be discharged? "

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" I shall only communicate the question to the Surgeon-General for such further action as he may deem fit."

Restrictions on the availability of treatment in the Government Ophthalmic Hospital, Egmore.

* 1037 *Q.*—Mr. C. BASU DEV: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there is any rule that persons having a monthly income of Rs. 100 or more and members of their families should not be given any treatment in the Government Ophthalmic Hospital, Egmore;

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(*b*) if so, when that rule was made and what the conditions then prevailing were that necessitated the making of such a rule and whether those conditions are still existing now and whether a copy of that rule will be placed on the table of the House;

(*c*) what percentage of the population of this Presidency is prohibited by this rule from getting any treatment in the Ophthalmic Hospital;

(*d*) what the other Government hospitals in the Presidency are where eye treatment is available to the public and whether such a restriction is in force in those hospitals;

(*e*) whether any classes of people for any reasons are precluded from getting treatment in the Government hospitals in the Presidency; and if so, what those classes are and what the reasons therefor are; and

(*f*) whether the Government have considered the desirability of making treatment in the Government Ophthalmic Hospital, Egmore, available to all classes of the public and to bring this hospital on a par with other Government hospitals in respect of treatment to all classes of people?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) In view of the growing demand for relief at public medical institutions the Government issued rules in 1916, under which the out-patient departments of the Government medical institutions in the city should be open only to Government servants and to persons who were not well to do. These reasons still hold good. No useful purpose will be served by placing a copy of the rules on the table.

There is no such restriction in the case of in-patients and no separate rules have been issued in respect of the Government Ophthalmic Hospital, Madras.

(*c*) The Government have no information.

(*d*) Special facilities for eye treatment are available in the Government Headquarters Hospitals at Bellary, Coimbatore, Guntur, Mangalore, Madura, Calicut, Tanjore, Palamcottah and Trichinopoly, the King George Hospital, Vizagapatam, and the Government Rayapuram and Royapetta hospitals.

The existing rules mentioned in answer to clauses (*a*) and (*b*) above apply to the last two of the institutions specified above.

(*e*) Vide answer to clauses (*a*) and (*b*) above.

(*f*) Yes.

The Government do not consider that any modification of the existing rule is necessary.

Mr. C. Basu Dev:—" Arising out of the answer to sub-clause (*f*), may I ask the Government whether in view of the fact that the Government Ophthalmic Hospital is the best equipped hospital in the country,

they would reconsider their decision and alter the rule so as to allow people who draw a salary of Rs. 100 and more to have the benefit of treatment in that hospital? "

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar:—" I may say, Sir, that no representations have so far been received asking for a modification of this rule. However, in view of what the hon. Member has said, I shall examine the question."

Transfer of the control of the dispensaries at Harur, Yercaud and Cauvery-Mettur to the District Board, Salem.

* 1038 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether orders have been passed directing the dispensaries at Harur, Yercaud and Cauvery-Mettur to be taken under the control of the Salem District Board;

(*b*) if so, whether a copy of the order relating to each of the dispensaries will be placed on the table;

(*c*) whether it is a fact that it is the policy of Government that dispensaries started or maintained after the year 1915 will be allowed half grant; and if so, whether a copy of the order or orders of Government in the matter will be placed on the table; and

(*d*) what the income derived by the Salem District Board is in the area of the Shevaroys and Cauvery-Mettur and whether it is a fact that no cess amount is collected in these areas?

A.—(*a*) The hospital at Harur became a district board institution from the 1st April 1934 on the abolition of taluk boards. The hospital at Yercaud was classified as district board institution by the Government in 1934. The hospital at Mettur was first transferred to the district board for maintenance as a dispensary but the Government have since decided to take it over under their management.

(*b*) No.

(*c*) The promise to meet half the cost of maintenance of local fund and municipal institutions opened after 9th March 1915 was withdrawn in 1928. The Government see no need to place the orders on the table.

(*d*) The Government have no information.

Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder:—" May I ask the Hon. Minister to state from which date the hospital at Mettur would be taken back by Government? "

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar:—" Government have passed orders that they will take over the management. I cannot say when it has been taken or is going to be taken."

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—"May I ask whether the present medical officer there will be continued or Government will be posting some one from their service?"

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"I can't say whether the posting of these subordinate medical officers is done by the Surgeon-General."

Local Self-Government

Cases under investigation by the special officer appointed for the bifurcation of district boards.

* 1039 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) in the case of which of the district boards, the investigation of the financial position with a view to bifurcation has been taken up and completed before the special officer assumed office:

(*b*) in which of the cases the investigation is still proceeding; and

(*c*) what the cases are which have been taken up for investigation after the special officer has joined duty; when the investigation of each is expected to be completed?

A.—(*a*) The Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards has completed the investigation of the financial condition of the Coimbatore and West Godavari District Boards, but the intention of Government is that every one of the remaining unbifurcated boards should be examined or re-examined, as the case may be, by the Special Officer.

(*b*) He has been asked to examine also the financial condition of the Malabar, East Godavari, Kistna and Nellore District Boards.

(*c*) The Special Officer has joined duty on the 23rd March 1936. It is not possible to say when the investigation of every other unbifurcated district board will be completed by him.

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—"May I ask the Hon. Minister with regard to clause (*b*) in which order and on what principle the district boards have been taken up for investigation?"

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"I have answered more than once that question, Sir. Obviously, before the Government decided to appoint a special officer notice had been given in the case of certain district boards, and the Inspector has examined these questions. I have said the other day that the special officer has been asked to examine each case. Government do not propose to fix any order."

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Mr. V. T. Arasu:—" With reference to the answer to clause (*a*), may I know whether it is not a fact that the financial condition of the Chingleput District Board was also enquired into by the Inspector? "

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—" This examination has been going on for the last three years."

Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder:—" May I know whether the investigation with regard to the Coimbatore and West Godavari district boards has been completed, and when orders are likely to be passed? "

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—" If the hon. Member will refer to the answer he will find that the wish of the Government is that every case is to be examined by the special officer."

Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder:—" My question is whether the examination has been completed and orders are likely to be passed? "

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—" I may tell the hon. Member that every case has to be examined by the special officer before any orders can be passed."

Meeting of the South Kanara District Board for the election of the President and the Vice-President.

* 1040 *Q.*—Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether all the elections to the District Board of South Kanara have now taken place and, if so, when; and

(*b*) whether a meeting of the members for the election of a President and a Vice-President to the said Board has been called; if so, when and to which date the meeting has been called?

A.—(*a*) Yes. In November 1935 and in February 1936.

(*b*) Yes—vide notifications, dated 2nd March 1936, published at page 144 of Part I-A of the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 10th March 1936. The Government have no information as to the exact date on which the elections were held.

Alleged interference of the Chairman, Adoni Municipality, in the administrative duties of the Commissioner.

* 1041 *Q.*—Diwan Bahadur M. Gopalaswami Mudaliyar: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Commissioner of Adoni Municipality is being thwarted at every step by the Chairman in the ordinary adminis tration?

A.—The Government have no information.

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S. M. K. BEYABANI SAHIB Bahadur:—"Is it a fact that the party n power in Adoni are trying to create these obstacles against the ommissioner with a view to postpone the undertaking of water-works hat are likely to be taken up in the near future?"

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"That has nothing to do with the water-works. I believe the scheme has already been approved by Government."

S. M. K. BEYABANI SAHIB Bahadur:—"What I understand is that some of the ex-chairmen and municipal councillors of the municipality have made representations to the Government to the effect that the present chairman and party are trying to create obstacles with a view to see that the present commissioner is transferred and the work Government have promised to undertake may be delayed?"

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"Transfers are not made on mere representations of parties in a municipality. As far as the water-supply scheme is concerned, I can assure the hon. Member that the decision already taken by the Government will stand."

MR. V. T. ARASU:—"The answer states that Government have no information. May I know whether it is a fact that some of the councillors and important persons in Adoni have submitted a petition to Government making certain allegations against the chairman of that municipality?"

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"There had been some faction in the council. The Government have received petitions, some against the chairman, some against the party."

List of municipalities favouring the reduction of the licence fee on cycles.

* 1042 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many municipalities have applied to Government in the course of the year 1935 and so far in 1936 for sanction of their proposal to reduce the licence fee on cycles (cycle tax) and what their names are;

(*b*) what the rates of such fees are, as existed and as proposed in each of those municipalities;

(*c*) what the orders passed in each case are; and

(*d*) whether copies of the order and the resolution of the municipality in each case will be placed on the table?

A.—(*a*) *to* (*c*) A statement [a] is appended.

(*d*) The Government consider that no useful purpose will be served by placing on the table copies of Government Orders and the resolutions of the municipal councils concerned.

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[a] Printed as Appendix I on page 996 infra

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Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER :—" May I ask why Government have refused sanction in a number of cases even when the municipalities have come forward with their proposals to reduce the tax? "

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI :—" The reason is that in some of the cases the municipality has applied for reduction of tax during the current year. Under the rules no reduction of tax should be allowed during the current year. In other cases the municipal finances were in a precarious condition and the municipality concerned has not indicated how it is going to balance the budget and Government found it not possible to sanction it. But in those cases where a strong case has been made out, Government have sanctioned reduction of tax."

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER :—" May I understand from the Hon. Minister whether in municipalities where the finances are all right sanction will be accorded in the coming year if they come forward with such a proposal? "

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI :—" If Government is satisfied that a municipality can forego some of its revenue and is also satisfied that in the case of municipalities where large loans are given there will be no risk to the interests of the general tax-payers, certainly they will sanction."

Land Revenue Administration

Effect of the replacement of the ' tarwar ' rates by the ' Deet Kammi ' rates in certain jaghir villages of Anantapur district.

* 1043 *Q.*—Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether in the jaghir villages of Palamati and Kotipi of Hindupur taluk, Anantapur district, the ' tarwar ' rates of assessment have been replaced by ' Deet Kammi ' rates;

(*b*) whether the reduction in the prevailing rates was meant for the relief of the ryots in the said villages and, if not, what the idea of the reduction of rates was;

(*c*) whether ryots in the village have had any relief in consequence of the reduction;

(*d*) if not, what steps the Government have taken to give relief to the ryots; and

(*e*) whether any representations have been received by the Government or the Collector of Anantapur from the ryots concerned and how they have been disposed of?

A.—(*a*) *to* (*c*) The Government have no information, but have called for it.

(*d*) Does not arise at present.

(*e*) No.

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Unauthorized collection of subscriptions for the construction of drainage in Repalle, Guntur district.

* 1044 *Q.*—S. M. K. Beyabani Sahib Bahadur: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Chairman of the Panchayat Board and the Tahsildar of Repalle (Guntur district) are collecting subscriptions in the town for the purpose of digging a drainage;

(*b*) whether the panchayat board or the Collector have authorized the digging of the same;

(*c*) whether it is a fact that out of 200 encroachments in the panchayat board limit of the town, the Tahsildar has ordered the eviction of the huts of only poor Muslims; and

(*d*) whether the Muslims of Repalle have made representations both to the Deputy Collector and the Collector regarding the high-handedness of the Tahsildar and the Chairman of the place?

A.—(*a*) No.

(*b*) The Collector instructed the Tahsildar to do it.

(*c*) No.

(*d*) Yes.

S. M. K. Beyabani Sahib Bahadur:—" With reference to answer to clause (*d*) it is said that the Muslims did make a representation and the Collector received it. May I know whether the Collector has done anything by way of giving relief to the Muslims whose huts were removed? "

The Hon. Sir Charles Souter:—" I have no information, Sir."

S. M. K. Beyabani Sahib Bahadur:—" Will he call for information and see that these poor Muslims are not affected by the high handedness of the present officers? "

The Hon. Sir Charles Souter:—" I think, Sir, it is not a question of high-handedness; as far as I can understand, it is that the Collector has been trying by some means to see whether he cannot permit the mosque to remain there, and any steps he has taken have been towards that end. I believe that is the case."

S. M. K. Beyabani Sahib Bahadur:—" No, Sir; it is only regarding the huts of the Muslims who have occupied poramboke lands and which have been existing for the last 20 years. It is the poor Muslims that have been evicted on account of the orders of the tahsildar. I request the Hon. the Revenue Member to see that these huts are not removed?

The Hon. Sir Charles Souter:—" I cannot promise that, but will have the matter enquired into."

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Representation of Indian Christians in the cadre of village officers.

* 1045 *Q.*—Mr. M. S. Sreshta: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many Indian Christians are village officers in—
(1) South Kanara district; and
(2) Malabar district;

(*b*) whether the communal Government Order applies to the appointment of village officers;

(*c*) if not, why these appointments are not brought under the communal Government Order;

(*d*) what the proportion of Indian Christians is to non-Christians holding the appointment of village officers in—
(1) South Kanara district; and
(2) Malabar district;

(*e*) whether there are Indian Christian applicants for vacant village officerships in the two districts; and

(*f*) if so, whether Government have considered the desirability of appointing Indian Christians to these vacancies?

A.—(*a*), (*d*), (*e*) & (*f*) The Government have not the information asked for.

(*b*) No.

(*c*) The provisions of the Madras Proprietary Estates Village Services Act (Act II of 1894) and of the Madras Hereditary Village Offices Act (Act III of 1895) govern the appointment of village officers where they are hereditary. In regard to non-hereditary offices, the hereditary principle is followed as far as is possible. The present system of appointing village officers has been in force for a long time and has proved satisfactory. The Government do not consider that the communal Government Order should be applied to village officers.

Control of Vehicles

Re-employment of the Bus Inspectors retrenched from service.

* 1046 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder: Will the Hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that some of the Bus Inspectors have been ousted from service on account of reduction in the number of posts during the reorganization of that service;

(*b*) if so, what their names are and the service put in by each;

(*c*) whether due preference is given to such discharged persons for vacancies arising afterwards in that service;

(*d*) if not, what the reasons therefor are;

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(e) whether it is a fact that the new rules for recruitment to this service are made applicable in the case of these discharged persons, and even the general educational qualification is strictly enforced in their cases; and

(f) whether it is a fact that some of the persons who were not retrenched at the time of the reorganization, and allowed to hold their posts in this service do not possess the minimum general educational qualifications now fixed, but continue in their posts?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b)

Name.	Length of service.		
	Years.	Months.	Days.
Mr. K. Azemuddin	4	2	23
Mr. P. A. Sambanda Mudaliyar.	3	4	28
Mr. M. D. N. Sheriff Sahib ..	3	2	10
Mr. R. N. Veeran	2	9	11

(c) The age restriction has been relaxed in their case.

(d) It was considered sufficient if the age restriction was alone relaxed in these cases.

(e) Yes, with the exception of the age rule referred to in the answers to clauses (c) and (d).

(f) Yes.

Administration of Justice

Rules regulating the appointments of Public Prosecutors and Official Receivers.

* 1047 *Q.*—Mr. C. R. Parthasarathi Ayyangar: Will the Hon. the Law Member be pleased to state whether the Government will be pleased to lay on the table of the House a copy of the rules regulating the appointments of Public Prosecutors and Official Receivers?

A.—For the rules relating to the appointments of Public Prosecutors, the attention of the hon. Member is invited to rule 1 in Appendix IV, and to rules 1 to 4 in Appendix III (f), in Part III of the Criminal Rules of Practice and Orders, 1931 Edition.

No rules have been framed by Government regarding the appointment of Official Receivers.

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Selection of District Munsifs made by the High Court in February 1936.

* 1048 *Q.*—Mr. M. Devadasan: Will the Hon. the Law Member be pleased to state— 11-a

(*a*) whether there was a selection of District Munsifs by the High Court in the month of February 1936;

(*b*) if so, how many were selected for the posts of District Munsifs;

(*c*) how many of them belonged to the city and how many to the mufassal;

(*d*) how many of the applicants were called by the High Court for interview;

(*e*) how many of them were Indian Christians and depressed classes; and

(*f*) how many of the applicants from among the depressed classes and Indian Christians were selected?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Twenty.

(*c*) Ten were from the city and ten from the mufassal.

(*d*) Out of a total of 331 candidates who applied, 142 were interviewed by the Hon. the Judges.

(*e*) & (*f*) Out of the candidates interviewed four were Indian Christians and twenty-nine were from the backward classes. Two candidates from the backward classes were selected but none from the Indian Christian community. By 'depressed classes' the hon. Member apparently means 'scheduled castes.' Information in regard to the number of candidates belonging to the 'scheduled castes' who were interviewed and selected by the High Court is not available but has been called for.

Mr. M. Devadasan:—"Sir, I find from the answer that ten of those selected belonged to the city and ten to the mufassal. May I ask the Hon. the Law Member whether the Government are aware of the fact that the strength of the bar in the mufassal is four times larger than the strength in the city?"

The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu:—"I do not exactly know how many times it is larger; I know that it is larger than the strength of the bar in the city."

Rao Sahib V. I. Muniswami Pillai:—"With reference to the answer to clauses (*e*) and (*f*) of the question, may I know why no Indian Christian candidate was selected?"

The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu:—"I am not in a position to tell. The discretion is entirely with the High Court."

Mr. M. DEVADASAN:—"May I ask whether those four Christian candidates who were interviewed were not qualified for being selected as munsifs?"

The Hon. Sir K. V. REDDI NAYUDU:—"It is not merely the minimum qualification that is looked into. Probably others were found to be more suitable."

Representation of Adi-Dravidas on the Panchayat Court at Seduvalai, Vellore taluk.

* 1049 *Q.*—Rao Sahib V. DHARMALINGAM PILLAI: Will the Hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there is a Panchayat Court at Seduvalai (Viringipuram P.O.) in Vellore taluk; if so, what communities are represented in that court and in what proportion;

(*b*) what the respective population of the several castes that reside in that village (Seduvalai) is; and

(*c*) the number of cases dealt with by that court during the calendar year 1935 and the number of cases in which the Adi-Dravidas were convicted?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) There is a Panchayat Court at Seduvalai village. Of the seven members of the panchayat court in the village, six are non-Brahmans and one a Muhammadan. The annexed statement [a] shows the percentage of representation of each community in relation to their number according to the latest Census Report.

(*c*) The number of cases dealt with in the court during 1935 was 16. The number of cases in which Adi-Dravidas were convicted was 2.

Rao Sahib V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"I find from the appendix furnished in answer to this question that non-Brahmans with a population of 1,601 are allotted six seats and that the depressed classes who number 234 are not allotted even a single seat. May I know why even one seat was not allotted to the depressed classes?"

The Hon. Sir K. V. REDDI NAYUDU:—"I cannot tell off-hand, Sir."

Prisons and Prisoners

Classification of Gopala Sastri, accused in the Madras Conspiracy Case, as a 'C' class prisoner.

* 1050 *Q.*—Mrs. A. RUKMANI LAKSHMIPATHI: Will the Hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) the class in which Gopala Sastri, one of the accused convicted in the Madras Conspiracy Case, was placed in jail;

(*b*) whether, on account of his treatment in jail, he attempted to commit suicide, and whether he was charged for the same before a Magistrate;

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[a] Printed as Appendix II on page 997 infra.

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(c) whether his health did ultimately break down, and whether he died in August 1935, after removal to the General Hospital, Madras;

(d) what he died of;

(e) whether he was convicted in the Civil Disobedience Movement in 1931 and 1933, and whether he was not placed in B class on those occasions;

(f) whether, after enquiry by the committing magistrate, he was given B class treatment when he was an undertrial prisoner in the Madras Conspiracy Case; and

(g) whether Hon'ble Pakenham Walsh, J., recommended his being placed in B class after conviction, and whether the Government allotted him only C class; and, if so, the reasons therefor?

A.—(a) & (g) On conviction the prisoner was ordered to be treated as a 'B' class prisoner by the presiding Judge; but no formal recommendation in this regard was made to Government. The Government therefore called for the hon. Judge's specific recommendation after furnishing him with full particulars about the prisoner's social status, mode of living, extent of property owned, education, etc. The Judge thereupon recommended that he might be placed in the 'C' class only. The Government accepted the recommendation.

(b) He attempted to commit suicide on the night of 5th June 1935 while he was confined in the Central Jail, Vellore, with a piece of torn-off lungoti. He stated that he attempted to commit suicide as he was suffering from a severe stomach-ache and in consequence of severe pain he decided to die. Attempts were made to prosecute him, but before a decision was reached he was sent to the Government General Hospital, Madras, for operative treatment (for appendicitis) where he died after the operation.

(c) & (d) In June 1935, while the prisoner was in Vellore Jail, he was getting every now and then acute attacks of pain in the right iliac region. As the Jail Superintendent suspected some appendicular lesion, the prisoner was transferred to the Penitentiary, Madras, for treatment in the Madras Government General Hospital. He was sent to the Barnard Institute of Radiology from 26th to 29th July 1935 and was sent on 31st July 1935 as an out-patient to the Government General Hospital for examination and report. The disease was diagnosed as chronic appendicular colic. He was therefore admitted on 1st August 1935 as an in-patient into the General Hospital for operative treatment. He was operated on for appendicitis on 2nd August 1935 but died on 3rd August 1935.

(e) When he was convicted in 1932 in connexion with civil disobedience movement, the prisioner was placed in 'B' class.

(*f*) There is no such classification as 'A,' 'B' or 'C' class in regard to undertrial prisoners. There are only two classes, viz., 'Special' and 'Ordinary.' This prisoner was treated as a special class undertrial prisoner before his conviction.

Mrs. A. RUKMANI LAKSHMIPATHI:—"May I know from the Hon. the Law Member whether the Government will take any action against the Medical Officer for having failed to detect the illness of Gopala Sastri, because it is a very serious matter?"

The Hon. Sir K. V. REDDI NAYUDU:—"I do not think any Medical Officer can be held responsible for a disease that might develop at any moment. It may be that there was no X-ray apparatus there. As soon as he was placed under the X-ray, this thing was detected."

Mrs. A. RUKMANI LAKSHMIPATHI:—"Mr. Gopala Sastri must have been under medical observation already and the disease must have reached the acute stage necessitating his removal to the Penitentiary?"

The Hon. Sir K. V. REDDI NAYUDU:—"The exact stage was only learned after he was placed under X-ray and that was done in Madras. Since it was discovered, the operation was decided upon."

Mrs. A. RUKMANI LAKSHMIPATHI:—"Does the Hon. the Law Member suggest that they should absolve the Medical Officer from any blame for this negligence of duty?"

The Hon. Sir K. V. REDDI NAYUDU:—"I do not find any negligence at all on the part of the Medical Officer."

Classification of Rangarajan, accused in the Madras Conspiracy Case, as a 'C' class prisoner.

* 1051 *Q.*—Mrs. A. RUKMANI LAKSMIPATHI: Will the Hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether Rangarajan, a graduate, was convicted in the Madras Conspiracy Case;

(*b*) in what class he was placed after conviction:

(*c*) whether he was recommended for 'B' class by Hon'ble Pakenham Walsh, J., after conviction, and whether the Government gave him only 'C' class; and, if so, the reasons therefor;

(*d*) whether, after enquiry by the committing magistrate, he was being given 'B' class treatment as an undertrial prisoner;

(*e*) whether he is now suffering from tuberculosis; and

(*f*) what his weight in jail was on admission, and what his weight now is?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) & (*c*) On conviction the prisoner was ordered to be treated as a 'B' class prisoner by the presiding Judge; but no formal recommendation in this regard was made to

Government. The Government therefore called for the Hon'ble Judge's specific recommendation after furnishing him with full particulars about the prisoner's social status, mode of living, extent of property owned, education, etc. The Judge thereupon recommended that he might be placed in the 'C' class only. The Government accepted the recommendation.

(*d*) There is no such classification as 'A', 'B' or 'C' class in regard to undertrial prisoners. There are only two classes, viz., 'Special' and 'Ordinary.' The prisoner was treated as a special class undertrial prisoner.

(*e*) No.

(*f*) His weight on admission into the Penitentiary, Madras, as an undertrial prisoner was 141 lb. His weight at the time of admission in the Central Jail, Vellore, i.e., on 27th July 1934 was 138 lb. His weight on 8th October 1934 was 130 lb. His present weight is 124 lb.

Mr. T. C. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR :—"May I refer the Hon. the Law Member to the answer to clause (*e*) which means that the man is not suffering from tuberculosis, and also to the answer to clause (*f*) which shows that there is a progressive reduction in the weight of the prisoner, and ask whether he will be good enough to make an enquiry as to what the reduction in weight is due to?"

The Hon. Sir K. V. REDDI NAYUDU :—"I shall be glad to make an enquiry."

Classification of K. Narayanan Nambiyar, accused in the Madras Conspiracy Case, as a 'C' class prisoner.

* 1052 *Q.*—Mrs. A. RUKMANI LAKSHMIPATHI : Will the Hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether K. Narayanan Nambiyar, an accused convicted in the Madras Conspiracy Case, was being given 'B' class treatment as an undertrial prisoner after enquiry by the Magistrate into his status;

(*b*) whether, after conviction, in spite of the recommendations of Hon'ble Pakenham Walsh, J., for his being placed in 'B' class, the Government placed him in 'C' class;

(*c*) what jail he is confined in now;

(*d*) whether he is suffering from shooting pains in the stomach and vomiting, and whether he is unable to retain the food given to him;

(*e*) whether he was subsequently brought down to the General Hospital, Madras, for treatment; and

(*f*) if so, what his present state of health is?

A.—(*a*) There is no such classification as 'A,' 'B' or 'C' class in regard to undertrial prisoners. The only two recognized classifications are 'Special' and 'Ordinary.' This

prisoner was treated as an ordinary undertrial prisoner till 7th February 1934 and as a special class undertrial prisoner after that date.

(*b*) After conviction the prisoner was ordered to be treated as a 'B' class prisoner by the presiding Judge; but no formal recommendation in this regard was made to Government. The Government therefore called for the Hon'ble Judge's specific recommendation after furnishing him with full particulars about the prisoner's social status, mode of living, extent of property owned, education, etc. The Judge thereupon recommended that he might be placed in the 'C' class only. The Government accepted the recommendation.

(*c*) Central Jail, Vellore.

(*d*) & (*e*) The hon. Member is referred to the answer given to Legislative Council question No. 723 on 5th February 1936.

(*f*) The prisoner has no pain or any inconvenience now. He has put on 11 lb., since his readmission into the Central Jail, Vellore, on 12th November 1935.

UNSTARRED QUESTION

Education

Pay of pandits and munshis employed in colleges.

1053 *Q.*—Mr. G. SIMHACHALAM PANTULU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) why the pay for the pandits and munshis is fixed as low as Rs. 80 and Rs. 60 in the first and second grade colleges respectively, while in high schools the maximum pay for pandits is Rs. 75;

(*b*) what necessity there is for lower scales of pay for pandits and munshis;

(*c*) whether any representation was received by the Government from pandits and munshis; and

(*d*) what action the Government propose to take in the matter?

A.—(*a*) The maximum pay of pandits and munshis in Government Secondary schools or school departments of Government Colleges is only Rs. 45 (Rs. 50 according to the old scale) and not Rs. 75 as stated by the hon. Member.

(*b*) The pay underwent a reduction in 1933 along with the general reduction for all classes of Government servants.

(*c*) Yes, from pandits and munshis employed in Government Colleges.

(*d*) The matter is under consideration.

[*Note.*—**An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.**]

III.—A BILL TO AMEND THE MADRAS BORSTAL SCHOOLS ACT, 1925, FOR CERTAIN PURPOSES (BILL No. 7 OF 1936).

* The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu :—" Sir, I beg to move—

'*That Mr. H. M. Hood be appointed as a Member of the Select Committee to consider a Bill to amend the Madras Borstal Schools Act,* 1925, *for certain purposes (Bill No.* 7 *of* 1936) *in the place of Mr. G. T. Boag resigned* '."

The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. Pannirselvam :—" I second it."

The motion was put and carried.

IV.—FURTHER DEMAND FOR GRANT FOR 1936-37.

GRANT XXIX—CIVIL WORKS—WORKS—RESERVED AND TRANSFERRED.

* The Hon. Mr. G. T. H. Bracken :—" Mr. President, Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I beg to move that Government be granted a further sum [a] not exceeding Rs. 1,35,500 under Grant [b] XXIX—Civil Works—Works—Reserved and Transferred."

* Mr. M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar :—" Mr. President, I move that the allotment of Rs. 1,33,500 under Grant XXIX—Civil Works—Works—Reserved and Transferred, be reduced by Rs. 100, to discuss the desirability of housing the Upper House in the Senate House. I do not know why the Government persist in accommodating the Lower House in the Senate House. I thought this Chamber would be far better for the accommodation of the Lower House. In fact, before the Government decided to have two chambers for the Madras Parliament, they had a plan for altering this Chamber so as to suit the accommodation of 215 members and the estimated cost was about Rs. 50,000 or Rs. 60,000. That estimate was based on the belief that there was going to be only one chamber. Now for our present purpose it would be just enough if they change the seating accommodation alone. If the seating accommodation is altered in the horse-shoe fashion, this Chamber can easily accommodate about 215 members and there will not be any necessity for making elaborate changes because already we have got facilities for accommodating the press reporters, we have rooms for the Members of Government and rooms for the library, kitchen and so on. But, in the Senate House, if they want to alter it in order to suit the bigger House, that will entail a far larger expense. In answering an interpellation the Hon. the Finance Member said that altering the present House will cost more than altering the Senate House. I think

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[a] To provide for necessary additions and alterations to the Senate House for temporary accommodation of the future Madras Legislative Assembly until a new Parliament House is constructed.

[b] For explanatory note vide Appendix III at page 997 infra.

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that is a mistake because he proceeded on the assumption that it would be necessary to make the elaborate alterations originally contemplated. Now, for the present purpose, for a temporary occupation of one or two years only, the only alteration necessary would be in respect of the seating arrangements and that can be done by spending a few thousand rupees.

"Then, Sir, hon. Members are aware that the acoustic properties of this Chamber are bad, but in the Senate House they are worse. I do not know how the Government are going to improve that position. It will be far easier to find accommodation for a House which consists of 50 members than for a House which consists of 215 members. Then there is the question of the rent of Rs. 1,500 per mensem. For the purpose of making the necessary alterations, originally they intended to spend only Rs. 1,23,000, but now that figure has gone up to Rs. 1,33,500. When they finish the work most probably the figure will be a lakh and a half or lakh and three quarters. I would therefore suggest that they should look for accommodation either in the Museum Theatre or they can even think of the Banqueting Hall or the new buildings put up called the University Examination Hall, where they can easily find accommodation for the Upper House. It will also be borne in mind that the Lower House will have more work than the Upper House and as such it will be easier to accommodate the latter anywhere outside the precincts of the Secretariat and this Chamber. In the Senate House it is proposed to have rooms made available for the Members of Government, the staff and so on. All that would not be necessary in the present Chamber because you have already got the present arrangements. I would therefore suggest to the Government that they should try to make this Chamber accommodate the Lower House, and, for the Upper House, they may have either the Museum Theatre, or the Banqueting Hall or the Examination Hall. I may also suggest that the Committee Room here may be suitably altered for the accommodation of the Upper House. If the screen partitioning the committee room from the visitors' room is taken away, that would be commodious enough for a meeting of the Upper House consisting of 50 members.

"Probably it may be said that the Upper House should have a grand appearance. For that they can give them velvet cushions. We do not object to that. As regards the rent proposed to be paid to the University, I gather from the note that Rs. 1,500 per mensem will have to be paid from October when the Government propose to take charge of it in order to make the alterations. As a matter of fact, the building will be actually occupied only from about April next year But from October they will have to be paid rent at the rate of Rs. 1,500 per month. Ordinarily, when a house is taken over for private purposes, rent is paid only from the time the house is made suitable for occupation, but in this case even when they want to have alterations carried out, they propose to pay rent. That also must be looked into

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It seems that the amount spent on the improvements would be recovered from the Senate authorities when the buildings are handed back to them, but that would depend upon the estimate of an arbitrator. Honourable Members must remember, Sir, that the amount that will be settled upon as repayable to Government would be far less than what would be spent on improvements. Then there is the condition that the Government will have to remove some of the additions made at their own cost. All these things considered, I would request the Hon. the Finance Member not to be carried away by the notes put up by the Secretariat, but to personally look into the matter and see whether it is not possible to have the Lower House accommodated in this present Chamber."

* Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER :—" Mr. President, I have much pleasure to support the motion. My point is this: why should the Government, for a temporary occupation, incur such a large expenditure as Rs. 1,26,000 besides paying rent at the rate of Rs. 1,500 per month? My hon. Friend the Mover has explained in detail how this could be avoided by making arrangements in this Chamber itself for accommodating the Lower House. It has been pointed out, Sir, that the question of adjusting this Chamber to accommodate 215 Members was already thought of when there was a proposal only for one Chamber. If that be so, why should we procure another building now at a heavy cost? Why should not the original arrangements be carried out?

" It is said that the University authorities are prepared to take some of the fittings, etc., and pay the cost. In regard to the charges that could be recovered from the University when the building is vacated, the note says that the price will be estimated and agreed upon. I do not know whether the agreement has been reached already or whether it would be a settlement at the time of vacating the buildings. If it is to be settled at the time of vacating the buildings, I would like to know who the persons are that are to settle the matter and how much money is likely to be realized.

" In order to avoid all the difficulties of incurring a good deal of expenditure the suggestion of my hon. Friend from North Arcot which seems to be quite feasible may be adopted. If the present building is continued to be occupied, of course with some inconvenience, it will be an incentive and prompt the Government to finish their new buildings as quickly as possible. But if they are going to occupy the Senate House and have a commodious accommodation and all sorts of facilities, the Government will be inclined to be slack in the construction of a new building and to prolong it. So I would suggest that they stick up to their original proposal, viz., of utilizing this building for the accommodation of the Lower House and also with a view to save this huge expenditure of Rs. 1,26,000, besides the monthly rental that they will have to pay to the University authorities in case they take up the Senate House."

* The Hon. Mr. G. T. H. Bracken :—" Mr. President, I am glad to see this zeal for economy on the part of Hon. Members of this House. I can assure them that all the alternatives that have been suggested have been considered. No doubt I said that this building could be so altered as to accommodate 215 members, but I think it would involve the taking away of the Press Galleries at this end and the visitors' galleries at that and putting up galleries and so on and the temporary accommodation alone would cost half a lakh of rupees. Apart from that in order to provide additional accommodation for committee rooms, luncheon rooms and so on it would be necessary to remove some of the Secretariats to another building. So the total cost involved would be about Rs. 72,000. Speaking from memory the other day I said that the cost involved in accommodating the Lower Chamber in this building would be Rs. 50,000. That was for the alteration of the building alone. The other Rs. 20,000 is for the consequential alterations. Government carefully considered all possible alternatives and the arrangements suggested by the two hon. Members opposite and I may say they are rather hugger mugger and not worthy of the dignity of the two new chambers. Hon. Members of both the Houses would be put to very great inconvenience if both the Houses are accommodated in this building. We have considered the other alternatives and examined the whole question in consultation with the Senate and they preferred to keep the examination hall themselves giving us the Senate House building. With regard to rental we have negotiated with the Senate and the Vice-Chancellor and there has been give and take on each side and they have abated their original claim. Originally they claimed Rs. 2,000 as rental per month and we have reduced it to Rs. 1,500. After all, the Senate is not a private firm or any other private body. The arrangement which has been arrived at between the Government and the University authorities has been arrived at to the mutual accommodation of both and with the consent of the Senate authorities. On the whole, the arrangement proposed by the Government is the best that could be devised and as economical as can be thought of. And I ask hon. Members opposite, in view of my explanation, not to press their motion."

The cut motion was put and lost .

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

V.—A BILL FURTHER TO AMEND THE MADRAS CITY POLICE ACT, 1888, AND THE MADRAS CITY POLICE (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1907, FOR CERTAIN PURPOSES (BILL No. 8 OF 1936).

* The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. Pannirselvam :—" I beg to introduce the Bill[a] further to amend the Madras City Police Act, 1888, and the Madras City Police (Amendment) Act, 1907, for certain purposes (Bill No. 8 of 1936) and move that the Bill be referred to a Select Committee consisting of the following Members :—

(1) Diwan Bahadur M. Gopalaswami Mudaliyar.

(2) Mr. A. Ramaakrishna Reddi.

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[a] Published in the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 10th March 1936.

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(3) Mr. A. Harischandrudu.
(4) ,, R. Dalavoi.
(5) ,, V. P. Narayanan Nambiyar.
(6) The Zamindar of Kirlampudi.
(7) Rao Sahib V. I. Muniswami Pillai.
(8) Mr. J. M. Smith.
(9) ,, T. S. Ramaswami Ayyar.
(10) ,, A. B. Shetty.
(11) ,, K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder.
(12) ,, Abdul Hameed Khan.
(13) ,, P. Ratnavelu Thevar.
(14) The Mover (The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. Pannirselvam).

"Sir, the Bill is a very simple one, the chief item of amendment being to bring the City Police Act also under the full control of the Inspector-General of Police. There are certain other amendments, some of them being purely of a verbal character and others which have been found necessary in the course of the administration of the Act. That is why I originally thought that I might move that the Bill be taken into consideration at once, but in view of the fact that several hon. Members have thought that a greater scrutiny would be required, I have myself agreed to move the reference of the Bill to a Select Committee. I might also state that the next Bill (item No. IV on the agenda) to amend the Madras District Police Act is also to be referred to the same Select Committee."

The Hon. Sir CHARLES SOUTER :—" I second it."

Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" I would like to suggest that the name of Mr. Ahmed Meeran Sahib be substituted for Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan who may not be able to attend the Select Committee as he is going away from Madras."

Diwan Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGAM CHETTIYAR :—" I second it."

The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM :—" I have no objection."

Diwan Bahadur A. APPADURAI PILLAI :—" I beg to move that the name of Mr. N. Ranganatham be substituted for Rao Sahib V. I. Muniswami Pillai. I have obtained the consent of Mr. Muniswami Pillai for this."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Anybody seconding the second substitution motion?"

The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM :—" I accept it."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" I am sorry to intervene in this debate. The name of Mr. Muniswami Pillai has been suggested by the Hon. the Home Member himself in the usual course. If any other Member has to be added, he may be added, but I do not like such substitutions at this stage. The Hon. the Home Member may add such names if he likes."

The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM :—" It seems that Mr. Appadurai Pillai has obtained the consent of Mr. V. I. Muniswami Pillai."

Mr. G. R. PREMAYYA :—" Before the hon. Member Mr. Appadurai Pillai proposed his motion he ought to have obtained the consent of the hon. Member Mr. Muniswami Pillai."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT :—" He says that he obtained the consent of the hon. Member, Mr. Muniswami Pillai. If Mr. Muniswami Pillai says he has not given his consent, Mr. Appadurai Pillai might withdraw his motion."

Mr. Appadurai Pillai's motion for substitution of the name of Mr. N. Ranganatham was by leave withdrawn.

Dr. Subbarayan's motion was put and carried.

Mr. N. HALASYAM AYYAR :—" I move that the names of Messrs. Manikkavelu Nayakar and U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt be added to the list already given."

* The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM :—" Sir, as I originally said, the Bill is so simple that not even a reference to the Select Committee would be required and therefore it was that I gave notice originally of the motion that the Bill be taken into consideration at once. But out of deference to the wishes expressed by several hon. Members of this House I agreed to refer the Bill to a Select Committee. To press me further and say that the Standing Order be suspended so that the Select Committee may consist of a much larger number of members than is ordinarily contemplated is asking too much of us. I would therefore request that my hon. Friend on the other side will be pleased to withdraw his motion."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I think the House is ready for a vote. The question is that the Bill further to amend the Madras City Police Act, 1888, and the Madras City Police (Amendment) Act), 1907, for certain purposes (Bill No. 8 of 1936) be referred to a Select Committee consisting of the following Members :—

(1) Diwan Bahadur M. Gopalaswami Mudaliyar.
(2) Mr. A. Ramakrishna Reddi.
(3) ,, A. Harischandrudu.
(4) ,, R. Dalavoi.

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(5) Mr. V. P. Narayanan Nambiyar.

(6) The Zamindar of Kirlampudi.

(7) Rao Sahib V. I. Muniswami Pillai.

(8) Mr. J. M. Smith.

(9) ,, T. S. Ramaswami Ayyar

(10) ,, A. B. Shetty.

(11) ,, K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder.

(12) ,, Ahmed Miran Sahib.

(13) ,, P. Ratnavelu Thevar.

(14) The Mover (The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. Pannirselvam)."

The motion was put and carried.

VI.—A BILL FURTHER TO AMEND THE MADRAS DISTRICT POLICE ACT, 1859, FOR CERTAIN PURPOSES (BILL No. 9 OF 1936).

* The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM:—" Sir, I beg to introduce the Bill[a] further to amend the Madras District Police Act, 1859, for certain purposes (Bill No. 9 of 1936) and move that the Bill be referred to the same Select Committee to which Bill No. 8 of 1936 has been referred.

" Sir, as the Statement of Objects and Reasons would show, here again the amendments are of a minor character and I hope it is unnecessary to discuss them here at this stage."

The Hon. Sir CHARLES SOUTER:—" I second it."

The motion was put and carried.

VII.—A BILL FURTHER TO AMEND THE MADRAS ESTATES LAND ACT, 1908, AND TO AMEND THE MADRAS ESTATES LAND (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1934, FOR CERTAIN PURPOSES (BILL No. 11 OF 1936). 11-a m

* The Hon. Sir CHARLES SOUTER:—" I beg to introduce the Bill[b] further to amend the Madras Estates Land Act, 1908, and to amend the Madras Estates Land (Amendment) Act, 1934, for certain purposes (Bill No. 11 of 1936) and move for special leave of the House under Standing Order No. 39 (2) to refer the Bill to a Select Committee consisting of the following members:—

(1) The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu.

(2) Sir Alladi Krishnaswami Ayyar.

(3) Diwan Bahadur A. Appadurai Pillai.

(4) Sriman M. G. Patnaik Mahasayo.

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[a] Published in the *Fort St. George Gazette,* dated 10th March 1936.

[b] Published in the *Fort St. George Gazette,* dated 17th March 1936.

(5) The Kumararaja of Venkatagiri.
(6) Rao Sahib N. Siva Raj.
(7) Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari.
(8) ,, H. R. Uzielli.
(9) ,, Daniel Thomas.
(10) Dr. P. Subbarayan.
(11) Mr. P. Peddi Raju.
(12) ,, T. C. Srinivasa Ayyangar.
(13) ,, V. P. Narayana Nambiyar.
(14) ,, A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar.
(15) ,, C. Ramalinga Reddi.
(16) Diwan Bahadur T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar.
(17) The Mover (The Hon. Sir Charles Souter).

The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM :—" I second it."

* Sir A. P. PATRO :—" Mr. President, Sir, I am constrained to raise a point of order in connexion with this Bill. Section 185-C of the Bill before the House proposes to establish and continue a Special Tribunal, a Special Court the composition of which is described there. The Tribunal shall consist of three members chosen by the Governor one of whom shall be a Judicial Officer eligible for appointment as a judge of the High Court, and another shall be an experienced Revenue Officer. The jurisdiction and functions of this Court are defined further. It is stated that this Court will have jurisdiction to declare the rights and liabilities in the land belonging to or held by an inamdar. My position is, Mr. President, that the constitution and maintenance of such a special Tribunal is not a matter which is within the cognizance of this Government, because the Tribunal is a civil court which has to decide the rights and liabilities of the parties. After the declaration of the rights and liabilities are made by this Court, the proviso to section 185-D says—

'Provided that in the case of a dispute as to the amount payable as compensation, the tenant or the landholder may apply to the Collector to fix the same and the Collector may determine such sum as he thinks to be fair and equitable as the amount payable as compensation.'

" Sir, so far as the civil rights and liabilities are concerned a declaration has to be made by this Tribunal. The result of that declaration is that the Collector, the Revenue Officer, will fix the amount of compensation if there is any dispute. Therefore the function of this Special Court is that of deciding the civil rights and civil liabilities of the parties before them. I will not tire the House by going into the details of this position, but I will state briefly what it is. In the Estates Land Act we have got provisions regarding the relationship between

the landlord and the tenant. In order to decide questions regarding the relation between the landlords and tenants, the Estates Land Act provides that first of all proceedings may be instituted before the Collector and then from the order of the Collector there is an appeal provided to the District Court having jurisdiction over the locality. According to Schedule B, Part A of the Estates Land Act even as amended by this House, in the case of suits triable by the Collector the authority to whom appeals lie is stated to be the District Court. In a case of enhancement of rent or commutation of rent an appeal is provided to the District Court. A case of commutation of rent has first of all to be decided by the Collector and thereafter an appeal is provided to the District Court. In connexion with enhancements of rent also appeals are provided to the District Court. Even in cases connected with pattas and muchilikas an appeal is provided to the District Court. According to part A or part B of the schedule to the Act as amended by this House it is the District Court which is the forum in which these questions have to be decided. Even in the case of ejecting a tenant for instance, an appeal is provided to the District Court. My submission therefore, Mr. President, is that what we are now dealing with in this Bill are civil rights and civil liabilities and these are to be decided by civil courts. Hence this Tribunal which is proposed to be established under this Bill is a civil court and hence its establishment or maintenance is not within the jurisdiction of this House. It is not the case that mere questions of land tenure and relationship between landlords and tenants are to be decided by this Court. I want to emphasise this fact that this Tribunal is a Supreme Court which would consist of a person eligible to be appointed as a High Court Judge and two others. This Supreme Court deals not with questions of the relationship of landlord and tenant, or the collection of rent or land tenure but it deals solely with the civil rights and liabilities of the parties. That is to say the owner of the land will have to appear before this Tribunal and apply for a declaration that he has got a right in a particular land. After that declaration has been made, the Collector will assess, if there is dispute, what the amount of compensation due is. Therefore Mr. President, the position is this. This is not a case concerning revenue administration, but this is a case concerning civil law—civil rights and civil liabilities. Otherwise, Mr. President, there is no meaning in having this Special Tribunal. They cannot decide matters of compensation, they cannot decide cases of ejectment, they cannot decide cases of pattas and muchilikas. All these cases according to the Estates Land Act have first to be decided by the Collector and then there is an appeal provided for the civil court. Here in this Bill what we have got is a Supreme Court consisting of three judges who have to decide matters not relating to land tenure, or relationship between landlord and tenant but matters relating to civil rights and civil liabilities. Therefore this Special Tribunal is a civil court dealing with matters of rights and matters of liabilities with regard to property.

"Having said that, Mr. President, I would submit to the House that it is not also a question coming under Administration of Justice which is within the jurisdiction of the House. Even in the case of Administration of Justice this House has got power only with regard to the constitution, powers, maintenance and organization of civil courts. That is a Provincial Subject. If it is contended that it is for the Administration of Justice that this court is intended, even then I would submit that it is not in accordance with law. Under the Madras Civil Courts Act, the powers of this Government are limited. The Madras Civil Courts Act, Act III of 1873, says that the number of District Courts to be established or continued under this Act shall be fixed and may from time to time be altered by the Local Government. It also says that the number of Subordinate Judges and District Munsifs to be appointed under the Act for the district shall be fixed. Therefore under this Act, I submit that the powers of this Government are limited. They are confined to establishing and maintaining District Courts, Sub-Courts and Munsifs' Courts and this Government therefor has no power to constitute and maintain a Court which has got jurisdiction over the whole Presidency. My point is this. It is quite within the power of this Government to ask this House to legislate upon a matter which would affect a district court or affect a sub-court or a munsif's court. But this court is established for the purpose of deciding civil rights and civil liabilities of the people throughout the Presidency. It has got jurisdiction throughout the whole of the Presidency and it is not confined to a district or a particular area like a taluk and so on. Therefore it is analogous in its position to the High Court which has jurisdiction over the whole Presidency. I ask: under what right this Government could ask for legislation, what authority have this Government, to constitute a court which would have jurisdiction over the whole Presidency.

"Under the Civil Courts Act, the powers of this Government are
1. limited. They have power only to establish a district court, a sub-court and district munsif's court. But this Bill goes beyond that.

"Then I would refer you to item No. 16 of the Devolution Rules—Schedule I—Part I—Central Subjects. It relates to civil law, including laws regarding status, property, civil rights and liabilities and civil procedure. I would then request you to turn your attention to Land Revenue Administration as described here. Item No. 8 of Devolution Rules—Schedule I—Part II—List of Provincial Subjects, refers to Land Revenue Administration, as described under the following heads, namely, assessment and collection of land revenue, maintenance of land records, survey for revenue purposes, laws regarding land tenures, relations of landlords and tenants, collection of rents, land improvement and agricultural loans, etc. What I would submit is that this Supreme Court which is sought to be established under the Bill does not

come within any of the categories I have enumerated above. Some hon. Members may say that what is contemplated in the Bill is not the establishment of a court. Nobody can say that it is not a court. People who have some knowledge of laws can easily find out if this is a court or not. If people would not use their experience and training, I cannot help it. (A voice:—fighting shadows.) Yes. You are all fighting shadows; when you are in a special position you forget yourselves. I do not know if Tribunal does not mean court. It is stated in the Bill that the provisions of section 185-A will apply to proceedings under this section. The rules of evidence, procedure, etc., are fixed here; this Tribunal has to declare civil rights and civil liabilities. If this is not a court, I think words have no meaning. As I said, this is not a matter relating to revenue matters, because this Supreme Court has to decide civil rights; this falls under item No. 16 which refers to Central Subjects. Therefore I submit that this House has no power to consider this matter. Item No. 47 of the Devolution Rules—Schedule I—Part I refers to all other matters not included among Provincial Subjects under Part II of this schedule. If there is no specific provision in Part II of Schedule I, then it would come under item No. 47 of Part I of Schedule I which relates to Central Subjects. This is a very important question. We must find out whether this Government has got the right to constitute, administer and maintain a civil court of this nature. That is the position that I take up. My contention is that this House has no power to consider this point.

"It may be said that if the sanction of the Government of India, the permission of the Governor-General is obtained, it will cure the defect. The Government of India in their Communiqué of the 26th February 1936 state: The expropriatory nature of the matter involves loss of kudivaram included in their inams by those who, under the existing law, would be in a position to establish their ownership of kudivaram rights. A measure producing this result should not be allowed to become law. There is no indication whatever that the attention of the Government of India was drawn to this aspect of the matter. The Government of India should specifically sanction the establishment of a court such as is contemplated in the Bill. My contention is that any advice of the Government of India will not solve the difficulty raised by me. I would say that this is only an advice; any advice or suggestion made by the Government of India will not be tantamount to their giving previous sanction to this Bill. The point has to be definitely put before the Government of India and their previous sanction obtained. The Government of Madras should inform the Government of India that they are going to establish this court and they should ask for their previous sanction. Any advice given by the Government of India will not do. Since this matter vests in the Government of India, this Government cannot proceed with it without the previous sanction of the Government of India. It is not a question of merely regulating the

relationship between the landlord and the tenant. Therefore I submit that this House has no jurisdiction to consider the question of establishing a Supreme Court for the purposes of this Bill."

* The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu:—" Mr. President, Sir, I really fail to see what exactly is the point which my hon. Friend, Sir Patro has raised. His point, if it is a point at all, is that this Legislative Council has no power to pass a legislation of this kind, according to which a new court dealing with civil rights would be established. My hon. Friend's contention is that there are certain provisions in the Estates Land Act which negative any such authority. For instance, his one point is that whereas the Collector is given certain powers to try cases for fixing the rent, etc., a right of appeal is given to the District Court. Therefore this Legislative Council and the Government have no power to pass this legislation whereby a new court is to be created. The District Court is given that jurisdiction by the Estates Land Act which is a creature of this House. It is this House which gives the power to the District Court to hear appeals. Therefore it is clear that this House has got every power to give any jurisdiction to any court (Sir A. P. Patro:—Question), except of course the High Court. Having disposed of that point, I may say that the power is given to this House by the Government of India Act. Item No. 16 of the Devolution Rules, Schedule I, Part I, refers to civil law, including laws regarding status, property, civil rights and liabilities and civil procedure. On the other hand, if you refer to item No. 17 of Part II, it relates to administration of justice, including constitution, powers, maintenance and organization of courts of civil and criminal jurisdiction within the Province. There is one proviso, subject to legislation by the Indian legislature as regards High Courts, Chief Courts, and Courts of Judicial Commissioners, and any courts of Criminal jurisdiction. The matter is clear from this. The first portion of this item applies to the Bill before us. This Government have been given power over the Administration of Justice as a whole, including constitution, powers, maintenance and organization of courts of civil jurisdiction. Let us omit 'criminal jurisdiction' for our purposes now.

" Now, Sir, the hon. Member has taken some trouble to tell us that there is a distinction between civil rights and liabilities and the relationship between landlord and tenant. Sir, with great respect, I may at once mention that the relationship between landlord and tenant involves the conception of civil rights. There is no distinction between the one and the other. Both are civil rights. I admit that we are giving jurisdiction to civil courts to do certain things, but all that is permissible under Article 17 of Part II of Schedule I. Sir, the hon. Member wanted to refer to the Civil Courts Act. The Civil Courts Act does not take away the power of this Council to start any court. It only gives power to the Government and to the legislature to bring in courts mentioned therein,—the district court, the sub-court and the munsif's

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court. It does not in the least restrict the power of this legislature. If that were so, perhaps in regard to the provisions of the old Estates Land Act, the reasoning of my learned friend would be correct. It would then mean that even the Estates Land Act passed in the year 1908 is illegal. I therefore submit, Sir, that there is absolutely no point in the point of order raised by my friend.

"I may also mention for the information of the House that the matter was referred to the Government of India, that the Government of India have agreed to the provisions and the Governor-General's sanction has been obtained for the constitution of this court."

Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—"Will the hon. Member place that paper of the Government of India on the table of this House, so that we may know in what terms the sanction or the consent of the Government of India is couched."

The Hon. Sir K. V. REDDI NAYUDU:—"I take the responsibility for my statement."

Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—"In what language has it been given—in the form of a mandate or advice or sanction? It may be anything. I think it will be better if that paper is placed before the House."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"With regard to the sanction of the Governor-General, the Government take the responsibility entirely upon themselves; and when the Hon. the Leader of the House says that sanction has been obtained, I do not think there is any need for suspecting either the statement or the motive of the Hon. the Leader of the House."

Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—"I do not suspect, Sir, but I want to know what its language is."

Diwan Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGAM CHETTIYAR—"Has any communication been received?"

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The communication that has been received by me is:

'Extract from the telegram from the Government of India, Legislative department, etc.: The Governor-General grants previous sanction to the Madras Estates Land (Second Amendment) Bill in the form proposed.'

"That is the communication I have received. I should think that the hon. Member, Sir A. P. Patro, while quoting item No. 17 of Part II of Schedule I relating to Provincial Subjects and also item No. 8 thereof, has informed the House that this House cannot pass any law to constitute any court of a civil nature. But item No. 17 itself clearly says: 'Administration of Justice, including constitution, powers, maintenance and organization of Courts of Civil and Criminal

Jurisdiction within the province.' And clause (*c*) of item 8 which he has quoted, lays down that 'laws regarding land tenures, relations of landlords and tenants, collection of rents' can be legislated upon. I will further refer the hon. Member to rule 3 (2) of the Devolution Rules which **says:**

'Any matter which is included in the list of provincial subjects set out in Part II of Schedule I shall, to the extent of such inclusion, be excluded from any central subject of which, but for such inclusion, it would form part.'

"I think, though it is provided in Schedule I, item 16, that 'Civil law, including laws regarding status, property, civil rights and liabilities and civil procedure' should come under Central Subjects, under the provisions made in items 8 and 17 of Part II of Schedule I, the very items which the hon. Member has quoted, go in favour of the Provincial Councils having jurisdiction over such subjects and having power to legislate on such subjects. Even supposing that any such sanction as is suspected by the hon. the Member from Ganjam has not been received in time, I may refer him to section 80-A, the proviso to clause (3), which says:

'Provided that an Act or a provision of an Act made by a local legislature, and subsequently assented to by the Governor-General in pursuance of this Act, shall not be deemed invalid by reason only of its requiring the previous sanction of the Governor-General under this Act.'

"Even supposing that the previous sanction has not been received, any legislation of this House will not be invalidated on that account, provided the Viceroy is going to give assent subsequently to that. Now, the Viceroy's assent has been received for the Bill, and I do not think there is any difficulty in getting on with the Bill. In these circumstances, I do not think that the hon. Member Sir A. P. Patro's point of order is in order."

* Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—"Sir, after listening to your ruling, I rise with some trepidation to move the motion standing in my name, viz.—

'*That the Bill be circulated for the purpose of eliciting opinion thereon.*'

Sir, I need not repeat to the House the history of this piece of legislation. It has gone through several stages, and I was one of those who were very keen in supporting occupancy rights for the inam tenants. I maintain the same position even to-day. But the Bill has been so framed now and is sought to be rushed through in a manner—I emphasize the words 'rushed through'—which is not the manner in which a responsible Government ought to manage its legislative work. It was on the 22nd February 1936 that the Governor-General vetoed the provisions of this Bill, and the veto was communicated to the public. In that very communication we found an indication that this Government were going to introduce legislation in accordance with the terms of the veto of the 22nd February 1936. We find, Sir, that

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the Bill was published for public information on the 17th March 1936; veto on the 22nd February, then Governor-General's assent, then publication in the *Fort St. George Gazette* on the 17th March 1936. I do not know, Sir, when notice of the Bill was given to the Legislative Council office; and here we are to-day on the 26th of March 1936, asked to consider the Bill, or to send it to a Select Committee. I submit, Sir, that this Bill No. 11 of 1936 is a new Bill. It ought not to be referred to as any previous Bill that was approved by this Council; and though it contains provisions which were discussed before, it contains also new matter which requires considerable investigation. When the Governor-General vetoed the Bill, No. 10 of 1934, there was no measure afterwards, up to date. Therefore, I say this is a new Bill which the House should consider afresh. I emphasize that fact because the House need not be under the impression that because certain provisions were considered before, and those provisions are again introduced in this Bill, therefore this Bill does not require as much consideration as is necessary in the interests of the public.

" Sir, on the last occasion, my friends opposite referred to ' hasty legislation.' That hasty legislation is indicated by the fact that first one Bill was returned by His Excellency the Governor, i.e., Bill No. 10 of 1934, for further consideration and suggestions were made to this Council as to how certain amendments should be made. That Bill again has been ultimately vetoed by the Viceroy. Then again, this Bill was sent up to the Viceroy before being taken up here. So, this kind of rushing through legislation, with no advantage to the people, is quite undesirable. It only reminds us of the policy of the Government in regard to the amendment of the Estates Land Act, which has already undergone three amendments in the course of these two years. That shows that when first a blunder has been made, it is sought to be repeated. And what about the remissions under the Act, in connexion with seasonal failures, etc.? Those provisions have not satisfied either the zamindars or the tenants. That Act is bound to remain a dead letter. What the tenants wanted was outright remission on account of fall in prices and failure of crops; and what is it that this House has given them in the shape of an amendment of the Estates Land Act? None. The procedure fixed in that Act is so complicated that it is impossible for even any intelligent ryot to go to the authorities and obtain redress. Anyway, it is there. (Interruption.) He refers to the vernacular press; what about the vernacular press, papers like the *Prajaseva*, in vernacular, which speak for the rural population? Even such papers condemn the Bill."

The Hon. Sir CHARLES SOUTER :—" I am sorry to interrupt the hon. Member, Sir; but may I know to what Bill he is referring? "

Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—" I think the Hon. Member may be aware of it." 1

The Hon. Sir CHARLES SOUTER:—" I only wanted to know whether the hon. Member was referring to the Bill introduced by Mr. Patnaik or to the present Bill."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—" The hon. Member has made a reference to that just to show how the Madras Estates Land Act has been from time to time dealt with by means of amendments, but I would advise the hon. Member from Ganjam that a detailed reference of that type may not be very necessary for the purposes of his argument just now."

Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—" I bow to your suggestion, Sir, but I have my own way of developing a subject."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—" But the hon. Member must also recognize that the House requires a particular way of developing a subject."

* Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—" Sir, I am aware of the procedure of the House and I have already adjusted myself to the requirements of this House. Coming to the subject, Sir, blunder after blunder in the amendment of the Estates Land Act has been committed and I have pointed them out only to show how the people of the country and the ryot population especially look down upon this provision of law, which you say, is going to benefit the ryots. On the other hand, it is going to take away all their rights. Before this Bill has been brought forward, there has been so much of agitation, there has been bitter controversy; and in the face of that controversy, is it not but right to expect that the Government should take the public into their confidence, and that there should be consultation with leading members of the public in regard to the provisions of this Bill? Do you not expect that the Board of Revenue should be consulted in regard to this matter? I do not know whether it has been consulted, or whether the Collectors have been consulted. I pause to know from the Hon. the Revenue Member whether any such previous consultation has been made with the Board of Revenue, which is a statutory and an advisory body. In the absence of any reply, I take it, Sir, that no such consultation has been made. Then, Sir, has there been any such consultation with the Advocate-General, a statutory officer and a responsible officer, and whether his opinion has been taken. Sir, it is but courtesy on the part of the Government that they should have consulted at least some members of this House before the Bill was introduced to see how things would work and in what form legislation should take place; and it would have been more graceful if the Government had any previous consultation, say, with the Members of this House.

" Sir, for whose benefit is this Bill brought forward? Is it for the benefit of the ryots or is it for the benefit of the inamdar? The case of the tenants is that they want a declaration of the rights of occupancy of the land and that they should not be subject to any fine or

penalty for claiming what they believe to be legitimate and legal rights. That is the position of the tenant in regard to his rights. What is it that you are going to give him by this Bill? You are asking him to pay compensation to the zamindar and do you expect the ryots to be satisfied with such a provision in the Bill. Are the inamdars, on the other hand, satisfied? No. Inamdars are not satisfied, because you have introduced a special provision for the constitution of a tribunal and you have introduced this compensation clause. Inamdars have protested against it. I have already seen in the press that there have been protests from several inamdars' associations, both in the north and in the south, and the inamdars of Tanjore, Tenali and Narasaraopet and other places have held meetings and sent up resolutions. (Interruption.) I am glad that my hon. Friend who represents I do not know whom here in this House, says 'No protests from the ryots.' But he forgets that this legislation has been brought forward overriding the decision of the Privy Council, because out of sheer pity they are shedding tears for the helplessness and innocence of the ryots and their inability to defend their case by spending money on lawyers like my hon. Friend. Therefore, in order to protect them, you want to eliminate certain pieces of evidence in the courts of law. Having said that, with what grace can any hon. Member or with what responsibility can any hon. Member make such a statement as that? It requires no answer.

"Then, Sir, for whose benefit is this Bill introduced? The ryots do not want it, the inamdars do not want it? If you believe that the ryots will be pleased with this Bill and that they will co-operate with the Government at any time, I may assure him that influence in the rural areas is such that the ryots will think twice and that no such help or co-operation will be received by Government and that they will not be pleased with the provision in the Bill relating to compensation.

"What is it then the reason for such a Bill as this? If a price is to be fixed for purchasing a right, would you be pleased or would any hon. Member be pleased to pay a price for a right which you honestly believe to be existing in you? The ryot population are not pleased; the inamdars are not pleased with this provision. The inamdars acknowledge the right of occupancy and the compensation they say, is so very miserable and ridiculously low that it is impossible for them to accept it. Take for instance, what this House has done in regard to the Malabar Tenancy Act. When this House considered that question, some people were very enthusiastic at that time—it was only a momentary enthusiasm; what happened? Even for the renewal of the kanam lease or kuzhikanam lease, what is it that the Malabar Tenancy Act prescribes? It prescribes at least $2\frac{1}{2}$ times at least for the renewal of a lease. But what about acquiring it outright? As I stated on a previous occasion, it is a case of land acquisition and the principles of land acquisition should be applied. Therefore, it is a matter which requires considerable investigation and requires investigation in each

individual case. It is not a general rule that should be prescribed to each and every individual case, but the relationship between the landlord and tenant must be ascertained before any such rule could be applied and so it requires considerable enquiry to see not merely into the question of tenure but also how it has been held for a number of years. That requires a long time for investigation.

"Now, it is said that in the case of a zamindari, we have given occupancy rights. I want to know, why not the same thing be done in the case of inams. Sir, I do not want to tire the House, nor am I provoking the temper of zamindars against me; that shows really that my attitude in regard to this matter and my attitude towards the zamindars are well known. Here I wish to read an extract from a published document explaining the nature and extent of zamindari and inam tenures. This is an extract from the fifth report from the Select Committee on the affairs of the East India Company, Madras Presidency:

'That zamindaris were offices of trust, and that the possessors of them, were accountable managers and collectors, and not lords and proprietors of the lands.'

"They say that—

'the duty of a zamindar as declared in his sanad of appointment, was to superintend that portion of country committed to his charge, to do justice to the ryots or peasants, to furnish them with the necessary advances for cultivation, and to collect the rent of Government and as a compensation for the discharge of this duty, he enjoyed, as did the zamindars of Bengal, certain allotments of land rent-free.'

Now, I say, Sir, this is the position with regard to the zamindaris and it is not right to confound that with the inams. I would beg this House to be a little bit patient and I wish to read an extract from Baden-Powell's book on Land Tenures. This is what Baden-Powell says of the land system in British India in Volume III on page 140: 'In this place it is necessary to notice that the inam grant *per se* is a grant of land to be held revenue-free and it is an accident of subsequent occurrence that an inamdar is charged with a part-payment of revenue or favourable assessment.'

"Sir, this is the position which is described by a well-known authority. That being the position of the two classes of land, if in 1908 occupancy rights were given to the tenants of zamindaris, I think the same principle need not be applied to this case. There are inams and inams and there are several classes of inams in which occupancy rights must be given to the cultivator and that his right of occupancy must be conferred. There are other inams, about which amendments were moved by me in this House on the previous occasion but they were vetoed, to the effect that such inams should be exempted, but the House did not listen to my points, and I repeat therefore that there are nine kinds of inams and that in each case the nature of the inams should be enquired into. The Inam Commission did not go into the whole

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question; it did not go into the rights *inter se* of the inamdar and the tenant; the Inam Commission simply enquired into, who is the person and what is the title conferred on him. That is what it has done. Therefore now, in order to ascertain whether we can apply the provisions of this Act, a thorough inquiry is necessary.

"Now, Sir, let us come to the provisions of this Bill. The provisions of this Bill are very drastic. The Bill says that the inamdar is entitled to place his case before the Collector or the special tribunal; he might say that it is his private land and that the kudivaram rests in him. But you prohibit him from producing the agreements which have been for a number of years existing between him and the tenant and you want to destroy all evidence which is relevant and even previous muchilikas are excluded from evidence. That is what you are going to give the landlord. The inamdar is not entitled to place before the tribunal or the Collector any muchilika or any patta in which it is stated that the tenancy runs till the end of the year, that he should vacate the land at the end of a particular period and that he has no occupancy right. Even in the Estates Land Act, sections 50 and 51 relating to pattas and muchilikas, it is stated that the patta shall contain the names of persons, the date, etc., and all special terms by which it is intended that the party shall be bound and signed by the landlord. In the patta issued in exchange for muchilika, what has he got to do? All terms by which it is intended that the party shall be bound, shall be signed by the landlord.

"Now, this patta is to be issued under section 51 on the part of the landlord. Now in the presence of a statement like that which the law authorizes what is it that you do? You will see even where special terms existed between him and the tenant all those terms shall not be evidence before this wonderful tribunal, before this extraordinary tribunal. That is the case. While in one part of the statute you say that the special evidence should be placed in another part you want to deprive the landlord of all that, i.e., it is not right to produce the muchilika. What else has he to produce? The accounts are the pattas. The pattas and the muchilikas are no evidence. How is this inamdar to prove to this court that there has been such and such a relationship? I submit, Sir, this Bill takes away the fundamental right of the landlord. Now, Sir, is it right to bring this measure at this time. I have spoken I think about the special tribunal which is to work throughout the province not in one district or one area but throughout the province and the inamdar has to go with all his records and cry before this tribunal. What expense has the inamdar to bear when he has to carry all the records wherever the tribunal meets? It is not a blessing; it is a handicap. Now, Sir, I have to appeal to the Revenue Member not to place the last straw on the movement. It is this. This Council is wearied of its existence. Look at the attendance that we have got in a meeting like this. I would not say this Council

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is dead. I would not be right to say so. What I do say is this. This Council has become quite out of date. Why not if the Government is wise enough, if the Government thinks that it is responsible to public opinion, why not they leave it to public opinion and then come into the House."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I might remind the hon. Member of his second motion which reads thus :—

> '*That the consideration of the motion be adjourned to 30th October 1936,' when this Council will still continue.*"

* Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—" I see what you draw my attention to. I must at once say that there is no connexion between the two. But I take this opportunity of making an appeal to the Government. The Hon. the Revenue Member is an experienced and able officer. He knows and he is in touch with the ryot population and public opinion. Let him not place this the last straw. This is my request. No interest is affected. No finances are affected. No one is troubled by this. While on this side of the House I supported the Bill last time. I said I would stand by it. But I do want that the provisions of this new Bill ought to be thoroughly investigated before it is accepted. Then we have got protection. It is not that the landlord is going to eject the tenants at once. You have got already a Bill, Bill No. 10 before this House. That will extend the period of protection. No landlord has the right to eject the tenant until the Bill is passed. Therefore there is no danger of the inamdars going to court or placing any difficulties before the tenants. Therefore, in view of the fact that there is sufficient protection already provided there is no necessity at all for dealing with this Bill immediately. Sir, I may state that the rights between the two could be adjusted and it is a very important matter. An enquiry is necessary and it is neither fair nor politic that the country should be deprived of this right of investigation. I am obliged to say that by accepting the motion of the Hon. the Revenue Member we shall not be doing justice to the ryots or to the landlord. Sir, the new dispensation will come and then why not make this the election issue and fight it out in the election. The ryots will know that we are fighting for them. There is no doubt about that. Those that oppose the Bill will have the opportunity of putting their case before the ryots. The ryots will give their mandate. Let us wait for the new elections. Not until then. Why any special haste or hurry? I pray that the House may consider the various aspects of the case and have the Bill circulated for eliciting public opinion."

* Mr. P. PEDDI RAJU :—" Having given notice of a similar motion I rise to second the proposition that was moved by my hon. Friend, Sir A. P. Patro. As you are all aware the legislation regarding the inams has got a chequered career all these four years. We know, Sir

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that the main object of this Bill is said to be to assimilate the relations between the tenant of the inamdar and the inamdar with the relation between the zamindars and his tenants. That is the main question that has been stated in the objects and reasons. But it has been admitted by the Government in their reports and their admissions in this Council that the relations ought to be entirely different. I think the House is aware, Sir, that the Inam Commission which has made a thorough investigation into the inam tenures has come to the conclusion that the inams are not all of the same category as the zamins and in certain cases the inams have got both the melvaram and the kudivaram. This House is also aware that a title deed conferred no power on the inamdar or the tenant. The Act of 1869 which is referred to in the objects and reasons says definitely that the relations between the landlords and the tenants are not to be decided by the title deeds themselves but they have to be litigated in the ordinary courts of law. There were cases coming before courts and during all these three-quarter century several cases have been decided and the rights of people have been established under a statutory basis by the Madras Government, viz., the Madras Inams Act. Now, Sir, those decisions have to be given the go-by by this Bill. What is the effect of that Bill? The only provision that is sought to be made in this Bill is that those people will have rights only for 12 years only after passing of this Act. Those who have been enjoying the rights established by the Privy Council all these years for nearly three-quarter of a century, quite apart from what their rights are previously, are now said by a mere stroke of the pen 'you ought not to enjoy those rights hereafter; but you enjoy only for 12 years with some restrictions.' That is the effect of this legislation. Then, Sir, I would pass on to the next thing. As you are all aware the question has been debated in this Council last time. At the time of Act I of 1908 Government have conceded this position that in most cases the inamdars have both the kudivaram and melvaram and they did not want to affect such inamdars who had both the rights. Then after a good deal of discussion both in the Select Committee and the Council they came to the conclusion that the definition should run so as not to affect the inamdars who had both the rights. Unfortunately ever since then cases have gone to courts and have been decided one way or the other. The real difficulty came this way. In 1918 the Privy Council said that the tenant has to show that the inamdar has no kudivaram right. There is nobody who will say that the burden of proof should not be on the tenant. Therefore the definition should be so changed as to throw the burden of proof upon the inamdar and not on the tenant. If that has been the case no agitation would have been there and all sides would have agreed to that measure without saying anything. But, Sir, instead of making that amendment the Select Committee on the Bill of 1931 did not go so far and did not even introduce any change in the definition of the word estate. So the burden of proof was on the tenant and the Committee said it was not proper to make any change in the definition.

You are all aware that the Bill has been introduced or has been delayed from time to time and suddenly in 1933 when the Bill came up before the Council we had certain amendments put forward and those amendments were carried to the detriment. If it is only an amendment in the definition I do not think there would have been any agitation on the part of anybody. But unfortunately, Sir, not only was there a change in the definition but there were certain changes in the rules of evidence and rules of procedure in the Act so as to make it impossible for every inamdar to prove his case on any matter. So, Sir, the Bill went up to the Governor and His Excellency Sir Stanley has returned the Bill. So far as that portion is concerned he vetoes it and returned it. Then the present Bill introduced in the old form was introduced in August 1934 with some more alterations making it more penal so as to inflict more hardships on the inamdars. Then there was an attempt to get over it or rather to compromise the position between the inamdar and the tenant and unfortunately they were not able to agree. The result is you have made a provision more drastic and penal so as to effect greater hardships on the inamdars. Then, at that time, it was argued on behalf of the inamdars that there should be no expropriation without compensation. That is a sound judicial principle. But at one time, Sir Archibald Campbell while saying that it amounted to expropriation he said it did not effect any hardship and so he carried the day, Sir. Now, Sir, His Excellency the Viceroy has vetoed the Bill and sent it back. I would with your permission, Sir, read this:

'I desire at the same time to make it abundantly plain that this conclusion is in no way based on opposition, and implies no opposition, to the proposition that the tenants of inamdars should be placed in a position enabling them to acquire occupancy rights and that I have been constrained to withhold my assent from the present measure by reason only of the fact that it fails to provide equitable compensation for the inamdars whose rights are affected thereby.'

n. I would draw the attention of this House to the words used by His Excellency the Viceroy. He said that he had to withhold his assent to the measure because the measure fails to provide equitable compensation. I ask any hon. Member of this House to say whether the provision sought to be made in this Bill is equitable compensation. By saying you will pay 5 per cent of the capitalized value of the rental, which means 20 times the rental, the total comes to one year's rental. Suppose a man is paying Rs. 10 as rent per acre to-day, and he is asked to pay Rs. 10 as the value of the kudivaram. Hon. Members of this House are aware of previous decisions. I would only quote this decision of the Madras High Court where they said that the kudivaram right is more valuable, and that two-thirds of the value of the land is the kudivaram right and only one-third is the value of the melvaram. That means the value of the kudivaram, according to the decision of the Madras High Court and several other High Courts, is $66\frac{2}{3}$ per cent of the value of the land. But what we are now trying to say is that only 5 per cent of the value of the land is the equitable

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compensation for the kudivaram right. The word 'compensation' denotes that you will have to pay for what you have taken, and His Excellency the Viceroy has been pleased to put in the words 'equitable compensation.' I do not know whether the words have any meaning, and whether the Madras Government have taken the meaning of those words into consideration. That is the first portion of my remarks, Sir.

"Now, why I want to elicit public opinion is more important than what I have been saying so far. I was referring to the Madras Act I of 1908, i.e., the Estates Land Act. You will see, Sir, that not only at that time the Madras Government have recognized the rights of kudivaram in a certain class of inamdars, they also said that they should not be treated along with the zamindar in other respects. For instance, so far as the question of ryoti land is concerned, they wanted to deal with the ryoti land in inams and zamindaris in two different ways. What they said was that if the kudivaram has been acquired in any manner whatsoever by the zamindar and if the land is again leased out, it becomes ryoti land and it cannot become private land. You will find, Sir, from the exception to section 8 of the Act of 1908 that so far the inamdar is concerned, he is put in a better position, and it is why an exception is made in the case of estate falling under clause (*d*) of sub-section (2) of section 3. The exception says:

'Notwithstanding anything contained in this section where before or after the commencement of this Act, the kudivaram interest in any land comprised in an estate falling within clause (*d*) of sub-section (2) of section 3, has been or is acquired by the inamdar, such land shall cease to be part of the estate.'

Why I am reading this exception to section 8 is this. The Madras Inams Act of 1869 and the Estates Land Act, Act I of 1908, have enabled the inamdars to understand what their rights are. The Acts definitely told the people that so far as the kudivaram and melvaram rights of the inamdars and the tenants are concerned, they will have to be decided in courts of law. They have gone up to courts of law and got their rights established until 1908. Then, after the Act of 1908, the question arose, and there were several decisions on the question. Not only that. I may also refer to the other fact in addition to the decisions. In the case of several inams, I can say that at least in 25 per cent of the inams in the Presidency the occupancy rights must have been acquired in some form or other under the Exception to section 8 by the inamdar. The Act says that it ceases to be part of the estate. What does the present legislation want to do? It says, 'that section is wrong, the rights you have acquired are not there; we will go back, these only are your rights, it still continues to be part of the estate, and anybody who is occupying the land to-day will get the occupancy right.' Is this fair and equitable? That is the question. I would ask the Hon. the Revenue Member whether he has considered this aspect of the case. More than all that, I am not here

asking the question whether the original grantor has owned the kudivaram or the grantee has acquired the kudivaram or owned the kudivaram at the time of the grant. I am only concerned with this fact. So far as the Madras Inams Act and Act I of 1908 are concerned, on account of the decisions of the courts for over a century, certain rights have been declared and established throughout the Presidency. In pursuance of these decisions and in pursuance of the statute enacted by this very Government, people have spent considerable sums of money and acquired lands. I was saying I am not very much mindful of the rights of the grantees or their heirs-at-law. I am considering this question, whether Government have taken this fact into consideration; on account of the titles established in courts or otherwise under law, people have come forward and spent all their money in acquiring certain lands bona fide believing that they have got both the value of the land and the rights over the land. By the simple introduction of a legislation like this, are you not depriving the vested rights of large classes of people, quite apart from the rights of the inamdar or his heirs-at-law? I have got statistics prepared for some inams in my district. I took about two or three villages in each taluk. The total number of villages that I got investigated into is 16 villages in the different taluks of the district. The total area in these inam villages is 9,540 acres and the said lands are in possession of 1,842 families, giving an average of less than five acres per family. Two hundred and thirty-three of these families belong to the original grantees, and they own 3,319 acres, roughly a third. That means the remaining two-thirds have been sold away to strangers, and the original grantees owned on an average about 14½ acres. The alienees are 1,609 families who had 6,201 acres with an average of less than 4 acres per family. Of these alienees only a hundred are Brahmans, and 752 are non-Brahman Hindus and 857 are depressed class and scheduled caste people, of whom nearly 700 belong to the depressed class community known as Settibalijas represented here by my hon. Friend, Mr. G. Sriramulu. The point is this. In most of the villages the communities that inhabited the agraharam villages are mostly depressed classes. When the agraharamdars had spent all their money otherwise, they had to sell the land, and all these depressed class people have purchased the property, so that now nearly more than half the land is in possession of the depressed classes, and on an average the depressed classes own three acres per family. Now, Sir, what the present Bill says is that if anybody has purchased the land from one who owned the kudivaram but not the melvaram, he will have the right to be in the land. But, if he purchased the land from a man who owned both melvaram and kudivaram, he has no right to continue in the land. I do not know if there is any sense in such a proposition which is laid down in the Bill. People believing that the agraharamdar is the owner of both the rights—perhaps he might have been the tenant himself, but he never alienated his rights—purchased the land. Now, this legislation says that they have no rights in the land and that if the inamdar had

put in a man temporarily even for a year, he has given up his kudivaram, and the only compensation that he gets is about Rs. 10 per acre, while he has spent perhaps Rs. 1,000 to acquire the land. Is that sound legislation, I ask?

" Now, Sir, in this connexion, I must say that we are interfering not only with the Inams Act and Act I of 1908 but also with the Transfer of Property Act and the Contract Act. Under the old Act you are entitled to purchase both the melvaram and the kudivaram from anybody who owned them, and if I purchase the land and get a registered deed under the Transfer of Property Act, I should be in possession of both the rights. But now you say that only five per cent of the rights on the property is mine and 95 per cent is given to the man whom I have put in on the land, may be even for a year. That is the effect of this legislation, and I wonder whether these implications have been understood properly in enacting this Bill. In this connexion, I would also state that when the previous Bill was introduced my hon. Friend, Mr. T. S. Ramaswami Ayyar, asked the then Revenue Member to give statistics about the number of inam villages coming under clause (*d*) of sub-section (2) of section 3, the number of inams in each such village, the number of villages where both the varams are owned by the inamdars, the number of villages where courts have declared their rights, the number of purchasers from those inamdars both before and after the Act of 1908 and the amount involved in the purchase. The reply was that they have absolutely no information. That is the answer given by the Madras Government. So, Sir, it is evident that this piece of legislation has been put through without any data or evidence in their possession. In this connexion, I should say that I do not understand the reason for this indecent haste in pushing through this legislation. I would only ask the Members of this House, especially the Government, to remember the fact that the Madras Estates Land Act passed in 1908 has taken 20 years to take a definite shape; when the original idea was mooted about 1897, a number of special officers were appointed, a number of committees considered the matter, and several Bills had been drafted and thrown out. The matter was so thoroughly investigated before we had the Act of 1908, and the results of those deliberations we are now trying to set at nought, so far as the inamdars are concerned. Then, Sir, soon after the Act of 1908 some defects were found in it and we went on investigating and trying to remedy the defects from 1913 to 1931. That means we have taken another 20 years to try to cure the defects. But in all those years, no attempt was made to solve this problem because no one thought that there is any hardship either to the inamdar or to the tenant. In those days, even after the decision of the Privy Council in 1918, when people realized that it is difficult for the tenant to prove that the inamdar did not own the kudivaram, even then the Government never thought of introducing this kind of legislation at least for shifting the burden of proof. After all, you have passed that amending measure. Why should not the present Government take time to

investigate the matter? In this connexion, I would refer to the conduct of this Government on the Debt Conciliation Bill. All sides of the House were agreed on it and there was no dissenting voice. But the Government said, we must have an enquiry, we must appoint a special officer. And they appointed a special officer, got his report and then allowed the Bill to be proceeded with further."

The Hon. Sir CHARLES SOUTER:—" On a point of order, Sir. Is there any relation between this Bill and the Debt Conciliation Bill? "

Mr. P. PEDDI RAJU:—" I was only saying that Government ought not to be hasty and they should take time as they have done in the case of other measures."

The Hon. Sir K. V. REDDI NAYUDU:—" We have taken three years over this Bill. Is it not sufficient? "

* Mr. P. PEDDI RAJU:—" Yes, Sir. What I am saying is in the case of other measures we were having enquiries made by some special officer or at least taking the opinion of the Revenue Board or the High Court. In this case, I ask whether they have consulted at least the Board of Revenue. When the previous Bill of 1931 was introduced, I understand that the Board of Revenue said that that legislation was bad. Subsequently when the new legislation was sought to be introduced, Government did not care to consult the Revenue Board. There are new rules of evidence, new rules of procedure introduced in the Bill, and is it not proper that the Government should consult the High Court and obtain their opinion? It is but proper that Government should consult their Board of Revenue, their Collectors, the High Court and other judicial officers, and if the inamdars or tenants or any other body want to present a detailed statement of their case that must also be considered. Though this legislation has taken three years, every time we take it up we hurry on and won't allow time either to the tenants or to the inamdars to place their case before us. Even last time, I was one of the Select Committee, there was no representation on behalf of the inamdars before that Committee.

" Then, Sir, I may refer in this connexion to the Malabar Tenancy Bill. It was a non-official Bill introduced by Sir M. Krishnan Nair, at the time a non-official, in 1924. Government opposed the measure saying that there was no proper investigation or something of that sort. In spite of their opposition there was a Select Committee appointed, and practically all the non-officials voted in favour of it. Even then the Government vetoed it. In this connexion I would only read the observations made by Sir Thomas Moir, at the time of the debate on that Bill, and the Hon. the Law Member, a non-official at that time, made a speech supporting the Bill. Sir Thomas Moir at that time said:

' Is it only in Malabar that we have cultivating tenants? Does the hon. Member from Coimbatore think that there is some invisible line drawn across the Palghat gap past which this principle of the conferment of the permanent

occupancy rights without compensation cannot escape and enter into the minds of tenants elsewhere? What right has he to assure members of this House that this principle of permanent occupancy rights may be conferred on tenants in parts of this Presidency without the grant of compensation to those from whom existing rights have been taken and say that the arguments that apply to Malabar cannot possibly apply either to Coimbatore or to Godavari?'

Then:

'Are we going to set up as the standard of legislation in this House one which, I think, had been repudiated again and again by legislatures whose existence has been for a much longer term than the life of this legislature? Are we going to say that there is no principle to be observed in legislation, that legislation need not be based on any principle, it is to be based merely on the exigencies of party politics or the claims of a majority from time to time? Is that the general and fluctuating principle on which our legislation is to be based? We, as a Government, cannot concede or accept that position and as we have said in a matter of this kind we have a special responsibility and think it is our duty to place before the House the real issue which has to be considered in respect of this legislation.'

"Those were memorable sentences. Simply because you have got a majority in this Council you ought not to proceed with a legislation affecting the rights of a certain class of people. After all, that Bill was vetoed by His Excellency, and then the Raghaviah Committee was appointed and a new Bill was produced by Government which was passed in this very Council. I myself was a party to the Tenancy Bill which was vetoed. We were not able to satisfy every party. What I am saying is that Government should hold similar investigation into the land tenures in different parts of the Presidency. Under section 14 of the Malabar Tenancy Act they made some provision which safeguarded the rights of the janmis, a class analogous to that of the inamdars. There was much fighting in those days on the part of the Reserved Half to secure the rights of janmis. The present legislation affects the inam rights of five thousand villages and five million people in the Presidency. After all, we are going to sit till November and in the meantime this Bill may be sent to the High Court, to the Board of Revenue, some Collectors and some District Judges who can give their expert opinion, say, within two months, and also if necessary they can appoint a special officer to go round and collect the necessary data which will enlighten the Government as regards the position of the inamdars vis-à-vis tenants. The High Court also will be able to give sufficient information as to the number of cases disposed of under the Inams Act and the Estates Land Act. So, I am only asking the Government to circulate the measure to elicit public opinion, not the public opinion of the non-officials but the public opinion of the official bodies I have referred to.

"Then, I would mention one other fact. Now we have declared a moratorium and said that no tenant is to be ejected pending this legislation or any other further legislation. So, no inamdar with any sense in him would rush to court and try a suit against the tenant. I have no objection to declare a moratorium so far as ejectment is concerned.

But we are also responsible for section 127 of the amending Bill wherein it is stated that not only suits in ejectment but all proceedings which involve a decision regarding the kudivaram rights should also be stayed. The result is in several courts a number of suits and appeals which are as old as 1923 are pending. I have got a case of my own which was decreed in sub-court. (A voice: 'That was the trouble.') As a vakil I am saying I have no interest in inams. The appeal of 1929 which was ready in 1933 has been allowed to lie over. If it is beneficial at least to one party I shall be satisfied. What happens is this: the tenant will not pay the arrears. Even supposing a suit in ejectment is dismissed he will have to pay the arrears of rent and if he has accumulated it, it is not worth the game and a fight with him is meaningless. In my own experience I know of one suit which concerns a village, it has been adjourned all these years, with the result we have come to see that the agraharamdars have agreed to give the occupancy right to the tenants on condition of the tenants paying all the arrears of rent without interest. We calculated that the rent without interest and without costs amounted to half the value of the property and I was able to effect a compromise recently. So, if you allow these things to continue it is not worth while for the tenant to go on fighting about his kudivaram or any other right that he is supposed to possess, and it is better in his own interest that the rent is not left in arrears. With these observations I hope Government will agree to have the Bill circulated for the purpose of eliciting public opinion and appoint a special officer to give us some data as regards the necessity for this measure."

At this stage, the House adjourned for lunch.

After Lunch (2-30 p.m.).

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—" The main motion that the Bill be referred to a select committee and also the amendment are for the discussion of the House.

" Before proceeding with the discussion, I wish to inform hon. Members that several hon. Members have indicated their desire that we should not sit beyond the 27th instant and we have got a very long agenda to cover to-day. I hope every hon. Member will make it possible for the House to finish the agenda that is before us to-day."

* Mr. K. R. VENKATARAMA AYYAR:—" Mr. President, Sir, I support the motion that the Bill be circulated for the eliciting of public opinion. I think this is eminently a measure of legislation in regard to which this House should be satisfied that all the necessary data are first collected before any legislation is embarked upon. As was pointed out this morning by Mr. Peddi Raju, it was elicited only recently from the Government, in answer to a question put by my hon. Friend Mr. T. S. Ramaswami Ayyar, that the Government were not in possession of any data at all in regard to this matter and therefore any legislation that has been attempted on this subject during recent years, ever since 1933

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onwards, has been almost like a blind leap into the dark. The inamdars naturally found their own position very difficult when they were overtaken, somewhat suddenly, by efforts on the floor of this House to legislate, as if by way of amending the definition of the term 'estate' in the Estates Land Act, which would have the effect of largely crippling and curtailing their rights. That grievance of the inamdars is a very substantial grievance and no remedy would be adequate in regard to it unless it took the shape of an effectual continuation of the labours of the Inam Commission as they were left in the sixties. In the famous report issued by Mr. Blair, the then officiating Inam Commissioner, certain points were made absolutely clear. It was proved that it was the established policy of the Hindu sovereigns of this country, and after them, of the Muhammadan rulers, and after them even of the British rulers during the earlier period of British rule, that substantial grants in inam were made to various deserving categories of beneficiaries, whether individuals or institutions. If the policy of the Hindu and Muslim sovereigns and also of the British Government at that time was to make grants and to make them all of such a character that they would last unimpeachable and unshakeable so long as the sun and the moon last, is it the policy of the present time that the inamdars should be evicted from their kudivaram interests whenever it is found that they have kudivaram interests also? That is a point which has got to be made sure about before this legislation is embarked upon. Is the Government satisfied that the time has arrived to make so absolute a reversal of the policy of the ancient sovereigns and of the policy of the British Government also during the earlier years of the British rule that, instead of confirming the inams they should uproot these inams so that the present legislation should be in the direction of evicting the inamdars from their kudivaram? That is the legislation in regard to which His Excellency the Viceroy has now withheld his assent on the ground that it went as far as to expropriate the substantial kudivaram rights of inamdars, even in admitted cases in which they had the kudivaram right in them, without any compensation.

"No doubt, so far as this Government is concerned, such expropriatory legislation passed muster because of the advice that was apparently given to His Excellency the present Governor that the legislation that was passed in 1935 March was not expropriatory in character. But that view no longer holds the field. I should say that on an absolutely complete and comprehensive survey of all relevant matters it has now been decided that the legislation as passed by this House was expropriatory in character and not only was it expropriatory but there was also no provision for compensation. Now, of course, the Viceroy has indicated that any legislation to be reintroduced on this subject would have to be on two conditions, namely, that the vested rights of inamdars in regard to kudivaram, as they stood vested under the existing law, were not imperilled in the matter of the establishment of these

vested rights whenever a controversy was raised in regard to the existence or not of the kudivaram interest in the inamdars. That means, if under the existing law it will be possible for the inamdar to make out, even taking the burden on his own shoulders, that the kudivaram and not only the melvaram was vested in him, then no impediment should be introduced by means of new legislation which makes it more difficult for him to establish that kudivaram was vested in him. If an impediment of that kind was introduced, either by the enactment of special rules of evidence or otherwise, then it would mean that you are allowing him a technical and a nominal right to prove his kudivaram right and not the substantial right itself which he now enjoys. In other words, you are cutting away from him all normally available and ordinary modes of proving that he has the kudivaram right in him. You make it technically open to him to prove it, but it is practically impossible for him to establish it by any known category of evidence. That is, nominally to say that it is open to him to establish it, but substantially and effectively disable him from establishing it in the only ways in which courts are ordinarily allowing him so far to establish it. Now, that is one way in which, while keeping up the appearance of giving effect to the Governor-General's condition, you are actually not giving substantial effect to it. I therefore think that before this Bill is proceeded with, every care should be taken for all to be satisfied that it does not render it more difficult to the inamdars in the future than in the present to adduce evidence to establish that they do have the kudivaram right in them. That is one point.

"Another point is that, having allowed him to establish that the kudivaram vests in him, are you or are you not to give true and sound effect to the other desideratum that the Governor-General has insisted upon, namely, that equitable compensation should be made a *sine qua non* for any machinery to be established under the new law for the acquisition of the rights of kudivaram and the transfer of those rights from the inamdars on to a new category of tenants? Now, this raises really a very large question. The Governor-General has by no means issued a mandate to the Government of Madras or to anybody else concerned that there should be this legislation brought on so quickly after the veto. All that the Governor-General has indicated is that if in proper time, after the collection of the necessary data and after the foundation has been truly and well laid for the formulation of a legislative measure, a proper measure is introduced and passed by the Madras legislature duly providing for equitable compensation whenever acquisition is made of the inamdars' kudivaram rights, then, no longer would there be an impediment standing in his way for the grant of his assent. That is all that he has said. But we are where we were. Has the Madras Government moved one inch beyond where they were when they answered the interpellation in this connexion of the hon. Member Mr. T. S. Ramaswami Ayyar? They have not moved one inch. It is said that these inams are spread over about 5,000 villages. It is said that

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the population concerned in this legislation runs into millions. It is clear that a very large number of petty zamindars would be artificially created, as a result of this Bill if it became law. I wish to ask what is the policy underlying this legislation? Is it the policy of this Bill that the lot of the cultivating tenants in inam villages should be elevated or, is it the policy of this Bill that a very large addition should be made to the numbers of zamindars so that, side by side with the major zamindars who are a few in number now, there might be artificially created under this Bill a very large number of petty zamindars, so that henceforward these classes of people could combine and become numerically large and, in future legislative attempts at ameliorating the lot of the zamindari tenants, they might throw in their lot with the bigger zamindars whenever there is a vote taken either in the country or on the floors of legislative chambers and the opposition to any measures calculated to elevate the lot of zamindari ryots or pattadars, might swell in volume and intensity?

"Now, Sir, it is really a question which of these is the object underlying this Bill. If that is known one could direct one's criticism properly. But whatever may be their intention so far as this Bill is concerned, one inevitable result of the Bill would be the artificial addition to the numbers of petty zamindars and the artificial addition to the volume of opposition in all future legislative efforts to measures calculated to elevate the lot of zamindari ryots; because the future inamdars will all become zamindars and there will be no inamdar proper who will have kudivaram left in him. All of them will be melvaramdars on a par with zamindars. If criticisms were levelled that the measure indirectly aims at the creation of such a large body of nominal zamindars in order that the position of the substantial zamindars might be safeguarded far more than at present it would be possible in our legislative chambers, I think such criticisms would be well-founded.

"Now, coming to the crucial point of equitable compensation, I really want to ask the Government of Madras who have taken the responsibility of bringing forward this measure this straight question: do you mean to flout or to respect the opinion of the Governor-General that equitable compensation should be paid, i.e., that substantial and effective compensation should be paid? Is it the price or market value that is to be awarded to a man who is asked to part with his rights when his rights are compulsorily acquired by a statute, or what? It is compensation only when it is the exact equivalent in value of what he is asked to part with, but if it is something less which by force of statute you will declare to be compensation, then it is not compensation, but expropriation again. Now in this Bill it has been stated that the capitalized value of kudivaram interest would be 5 per cent of twenty times the annual rent as it was just before the 1st November 1933, which means that one year's rent shall be the compensation. The method of ascertaining the capitalized value of the kudivaram right is to multiply 2-4 p.m.

the annual rent prevailing before the 1st of November 1933 by the figure' 20;' the compensation is calculated by dividing the multiple by 20. I am not able to follow the ingenuity that underlies this method of multiplying by ' 20 ' and dividing by ' 20.' You can easily state that one year's rent shall be the compensation and no more shall be the equitable compensation awarded to the inamdar who is forcibly deprived of his right by this statute. Why don't you express it in straight terms and in simple language? Why this fascinating multiplication and division which is quite futile? You can very well say that one year's rental value will be the compensation for the deprivation of the kudivaram right. I do not see whose ingenuity it is, whether it is the ingenuity of the non-official sponsors of this measure or the officials or the manipulation of the Secretariat.

" Now, ' equitable compensation ' means ' fair and just compensation,' being exactly the equivalent in value of the right that a man is deprived of by force of statute. The courts in this country happen to have arrived at different conclusions in regard to equitable compensation under the Land Acquisition Act. Have not there been cases in courts of this country where kudivaram rights or kudivaram cum melvaram rights on the land were acquired under the Land Acquisition Act? Have there not been decisions in this country which could show the ratio in which the compensation has to be divided between melvaramdar and kudivaramdar? There are two important cases. One is reported in I.L.R., 36 Madras, page 395 and another is reported in I.L.R., 50 Madras, page 706, and both these cases rely upon an earlier case in 4 Madras. My idea is that various proportions have been fixed but in no instance has the ratio been lower than two-fifths for the kudivaram. Sometimes two-thirds has been put as value of kudivaram and one-third as value of melvaram, and sometimes three-fifths for kudivaram and two-fifths for melvaram. It has been stated in 4 Madras, 367, that three-fifths might go to melvaramdar and in that case there were further fractions, and 60 out of 120 were given to the zamindar, 8 was given to the mirasidar. Fifty-two was given as kudivaram in that case out of 120. In no case could you find that one year's rental would be a fair equivalent of the actual market selling price of the kudivaram right and it is extraordinary that, under the colour of giving effect to the recommendation of the Viceroy that equitable compensation should be provided as a *sine qua non* for bringing in this legislation, they should have reached this ratio of one year's rent. That is expropriation again in truth and substance under the name of equitable compensation.

" There is another provision which gives retrospective operation to this Bill when it becomes law. It is a serious question to consider when a legislation is passed how far it is equitable and just to give retrospective operation to Bills of this kind. Is that not a matter in regard to which the opinions of the public and the persons affected

should be taken and is there not a very good case for the gathering of data before you embark upon a legislation of this kind? There is another provision in this Bill that, within two years after this Bill becomes law, it would be the duty of the inamdar to make an application to the court which would be inquired into and as a result of that enquiry there would be a decision whether he was a melvaramdar pure and simple, or melvaramdar and kudivaramdar. And if an inamdar does not make such an application, his rights become barred and he becomes a melvaramdar pure and simple even in genuine cases where he has kudivaram right. Sir, what is the necessity for this Bill? What is the justification for a Bill of this kind just at this time which renders it necessary, even for those who have a right, to come forward and raise a controversy over what may be an unquestionable right of theirs? Why do you make it incumbent upon persons who have kudivaram rights, even in admitted cases, to apply to courts and raise a controversy so as to make the man who squats upon the land at that time and who was a cultivating tenant on the 1st November 1933 to come forward and say that he is the man who has kudivaram rights? You actually give him a premium to bring forward false contentions, and say that he is the kudivaramdar.

"The only portion of this Bill in regard to which it may be said that public opinion has undergone a change in favour of the inam tenants is in regard to the burden of proof. The main reason which the Government has been adducing for embarking upon legislation in regard to this topic is the decision of the Privy Council in regard to the burden of proof. If that decision has been found to affect adversely the interests of the cultivating tenants in inam villages, public opinion has so far gone to solve that difficulty. We are willing to have a simple amendment of the Act just to throw the burden of proof on the inamdar in cases where doubt or controversy has arisen in regard to the kudivaram right. There is no real controversy as to the beneficial operation of the Bill if it is confined to such a simple purpose. It is only with regard to the other portions of the Bill that public opinion is acutely divided. It is the belief of some of us on this side of the House that public opinion is preponderantly in favour of the class of inamdars who have kudivaram rights vested in them, because it is our belief that that class is not on a par with zamindars, but it is a class of poor inamdars who have found it to be their lot to fall back upon their lands as the only means of subsistence; and they themselves are prepared to bear the burden of cultivating the lands and effectually functioning as kudivaram tenants. And when that is so, what justification is there in turning them out of their means of subsistence and asking them to be content with one year's rental value and placing in their stead by way of substitution a class of people who may in no way be better than the inamdars? It may be that certain jatka-wallahs happen to be squatting on the land on the 1st November 1933 as cultivating tenants, to whom

the kudivaram rights may be transferred; what is the provision in this Bill that guarantees that those jutka-wallahs will pursue the occupation of cultivating the lands for ever and ever? They are at perfect liberty to sell or transfer their rights to some others and then they will get in exchange not one year's rental but the full selling value of the kudivaram right.

"I do not think I need keep the House any longer especially in view of the hint thrown out by the President. There are very many matters which require careful consideration and even as to drafting I think there is much scope for improvement. The first impression produced by this Bill, when one reads it, is that it is very clumsy, confused and illogical and that a very much better draft could have been produced, if some attention and thought had been devoted even to the drafting portion of the labour involved. But I think because there was perhaps the anxious expectation that the Bill with all its bad features would receive or might receive the assent of His Excellency the Governor-General and because it did not receive it, the immediate impulse was to repair wounded pride and affected prestige by rushing this Bill practically with the same clauses as the clauses vetoed by His Excellency the Governor-General but with one substantial addition to the Bill, viz., this wonderful addition of fixing statutorily the exchange value of kudivaram right as one year's rental. This addition is by no means such an addition that the previous defects are counterbalanced by the superior merit or advantage of this addition. This, if anything, made the Bill which was bad, worse. I submit that there is very good reason for public opinion being gauged and for data being collected. If public opinion were gauged, public opinion would assert itself almost 95 per cent in favour of the Blair Commission's investigations being continued from where they were left. Mr. Blair has stated in his report, paragraph 55:—

'Many questions of greater or less importance involving long disputed rights between the Government and the zamindars, the zamindars and the inamdars and the inamdars and their tenants have also been taken up and discussed and brought to a final decision under the sanction of Government.'

"What he says is that many questions between inamdars and their tenants have been taken up, discussed and brought to a final decision. These are not dwelt upon in his report. Now parts of this report alone have been supplied even to the Members of this House. Obviously, paragraph 55 to which I have referred gives the clue to enquiries and data and decisions reached by the Blair Commission under the sanction of Government in regard to the relation between inamdars and their tenants and their mutual rights. Now when are we to know what are the conclusions reached by the Blair Commission in regard to these matters, and if they are not sufficiently comprehensive, when is the opportunity to be taken by the present Government before they push forward with this legislation for completing the incomplete portion of

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that enquiry and collecting the full and exhaustive data that require to be collected under the head of relations between inamdars and cultivating tenants and of their relative rights and liabilities? Unless we do that, we will not be on safe ground in regard to legislation of this kind.

" Again, Sir, why should there be this attempt in the first instance in regard to land tenures only for the compulsory acquisition of landed right of inamdars—one class of landed proprietors in this country? Is it or is it not to be undertaken as part of a general policy of revesting by way of divesting and conferment of rights? Is it not to be a general policy which will take into account all classes of landed interests and landed proprietors? Is this a precursor to similar legislation in regard to ryotwari tracts? And even in regard to zamindari areas has the complete area been covered by the existing legislation or is there not a lacuna here and there which would require to be filled in on a uniform plan? Is this not really a topic of such universal application and importance that Government will require to make sure of some general guiding principle as a principle that will be at the back of legislative efforts to redivide property rights as between various classes entitled to own and possess them? Without such a general guiding principle, what is the meaning of starting it at the wrong end, especially as, when in 1908 they passed the Bill which became Act I of 1908, this particular effort which is now attempted to be revived, was dropped after ample consideration? I do not think that my learned Friend Sir Charles Souter is going to claim that he knows more on this subject than his illustrious predecessor Sir George Forbes. I think Sir George Forbes after a careful consideration of the whole matter with the help of very eminent and classic persons well versed in the subject, in the light of such guidance as was afforded by such eminent jurists and judges as the late Sir T. Muthuswami Ayyar and the late Sir S. Subrahmanya Ayyar, with the guidance and help of such eminent lawyers as Sir P. S. Sivaswami Ayyar, who was then Advocate-General and the late Mr. V. Krishnaswami Ayyar, with all this help he reached a conclusion on this topic. What is further equipment in the light of which the present effort is launched by the Government? Their own answer is that they are not in possession of any further enlightenment on the subject. They had no data at all. It all comes to this then, that you begin at the wrong end. One feels that the only thing that could be discovered is, as I started by mentioning, that this huge effort is being made by certain interested persons to add to the number of nominal zamindars so that hereafter the position of zamindars can become more and more entrenched in our legislatures and the position of cultivating tenants, whether they are tenants in inam villages or zamindari villages, the position of cultivating tenants might be imperilled and jeopardized more and more. That seems to be the only inference deducible from this hasty repetition of a discredited effort. I think I will leave it at that."

* Mr. T. C. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR :—" Mr. President, Sir, I did not intend to speak after my colleague from Madura has made a powerful appeal; however, as it is your pleasure that I might also address, I shall say a few words.

" Sir, as regards our expert Member Mr. Patnaik, this much I can say. Whatever may be his credentials for being an expert on land tenures in that part of the country from which he comes, I must say that things in that part of the country must be very bad, so utterly bad that my learned friend time after time had to thunder against the inamdars in that part of the country. But I can confidently say, Sir, and I am sure he will forgive me for saying that, that he must be utterly unfamiliar with the conditions of inam tenures in the southern districts. Surely he cannot claim to know the conditions of inam tenure in the southern districts of the presidency. Certainly the conditions there are not so bad. Whatever that may be, it is not a question between him and ourselves. What I desire now to emphasize is the necessity to gather information. My points are that the conditions of the inam tenure vary in various parts of the country: what obtain in Tanjore, for instance, are not exactly alike to those that obtain in Ramnad district where innumerable inam villages exist. The inam tenure is not on a par with the tenure obtaining in zamindari villages. The zamindaris have had a peculiar history. Owing to the custom of impartibility and inalienability obtaining in most of the zamindaris, the zamindaris were preserved in tact; they were not partitioned or subdivided as the inam villages. The result has been that, in the nature of things, the zamindars were only melvaramdars and the tenants in occupancy were in most cases having permanent occupancy right. Cases where the zamindars had the kudivaram interest were exceptions rather than the rule. But in the inam villages on account of the normal operation of the ordinary incidents of partition and alienation, by laws of the country, family properties had to be partitioned; the process went on repeating in successive generations. The divided lands were alienated. And the transferees and their descendants in their own turn divided and some of them alienated their lands. So much so, if there are about 5,000 inam villages, there may be 50,000 or 5,00,000 inamdars. Therefore, to say that an inamdar is on a par with a zamindar is to say something which is absolutely ludicrous. Now, there are many cases in which the inamdars own far fewer acres than many individual tenants. There are hundreds of inamdars who live only on the income from the lands. Some are actual cultivators and others are cultivating the land by letting it to others. Others are not having enough income from land to live on and therefore they are dividing their time and avocation between the village and the town. Under such circumstances it would be very hard to deal with the inamdars as if they are people who must be treated like zamindars, and introduce these provisions which deprive them of their kudivaram rights. It would be cruel kindness

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to inflict upon them the analogy of the status of a zamindar and deprive them of their property. To a question with many clauses, put, two years ago, by Mr. Ramaswami Ayyar, the Government returned an answer seriatim to the effect that the Government were not in possession of information relating to these matters. If the Government have since had all the information they must place it on the table of the House. If they have not got the information they must collect the information. Assuming that conditions have since arisen in which a comprehensive legislation regarding inam villages should be undertaken, even then I say any real attempt at satisfactory legislation can only begin by the collection of enough and reliable data upon which to found proposals for the purpose of framing the appropriate legislative measures. Here no such thing has been done and no data exist. Some hon. Member said—I believe it was the Hon. the Leader of the House—that for three years we have been on this matter already. Have we been pursuing this matter, for three years, the normal procedure for legislation, by making investigations, by collecting data, by sifting them and arriving at conclusions upon which to found legislative proposals? Looking at the history of the matter for over three years, we had first Bill No. 12 of 1931 which mainly concerned itself with the removal of difficulties which were discovered in the working of Act I of 1908, i.e., difficulties met with in zamindaries. In fact on that occasion when that Bill was discussed here the Hon. the Revenue Member stated that the idea was not to introduce any new principle but merely to amend the Act to rectify the defects which had been discovered in the working of the Act. The only substantial amendment was in seeking to alter the definition in clause (*d*) of section 3 of the Act, by bringing within it all the three kinds of inams, whereas only one of these three categories of inams was within the Act. There was an attempt to deal with the exception to section 8 in the Act by which a merger of kudivaram and melvaram in the inam estate could be done. The Select Committee did not want to have any change with reference to inams. The Government accepted the position. Even when the changes regarding the inams were introduced in Bill No. 12 of 1931, the attempt was not to alter the substantive law regarding inams but merely to seek to redress the balance on account of the decision of the Privy Council which shifted the onus of proof. So far as that ground was concerned, the gentleman who spoke on behalf of inamdars never questioned the expediency of restoring the onus of proof and placing it on the inamdars in cases which would arise between the inamdar and the tenant. Such being the case, certain amendments affecting the substantive rights of the inamdars, moved by some hon. Members were accepted by the Government. That was a surprise. Thereafter the Government clung to their decision. Not that I say that Government should not protect the inam tenants, if a necessity exists, not that I say that when conditions properly arise, Government should not bring forward legislation, not that I say that Government will not be called upon to face even opposition from vested

interests . . . (Interruption from Mr. Patnaik.) Sir, I believe that of all people the experts must command sufficient control over themselves and not press their views by interjections in this Council. I must really congratulate the Government and thank them for having retained the hon. Member from Ganjam as an expert member as otherwise he would have been lost to us and to this province. We are all so happy to have him here but let him remember he will have his turn. I consider he will be useful to us at least this way. He is so prone to provoke discussion that no points will be lost by us by negligence or carelessness. He is always so enthusiastic that we will not forget anything.

" Sir, what we are really anxious about is that the Bill must be circulated for eliciting public opinion, opinion from experienced officials, district authorities, holders of large inams, ryots' associations and also from judicial bodies like the High Court and certain district courts and subordinate courts in districts where inam villages abound.

5 " With that material before us, it would be appropriate if we pro-
1. ceed to discuss the Bill. That would be proper, that would be reasonable and that would be satisfactory. That is the simple proposition that is before the House moved by my hon. Friend, Sir A. P. Patro, and I support it."

* Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" Mr. President, Sir, I am sure the House is already impatient with the number of speeches that have been made in support of the proposition from this side of the House. Every one who has spoken in this connexion has spoken in favour of the amendment of my hon. Friend, Sir Patro, the Member from Ganjam. I rise to support the Hon. Member that the Bill should be circulated for public opinion. The history of this legislation is rather a chequered one, because in spite of the fact that this Council passed it, His Excellency the then Governor remitted it once; and when the new Governor took charge of his office in this province he again remitted it on a particular point; and when the Bill went up for the assent of His Excellency the Viceroy, he stated in clear and unmistakable terms that it was his opinion that the Bill was of an expropriatory nature and unless compensation is provided for the valuable right of the inamdar, he will not be a party to make it law. But I am afraid that the Government of Madras are trying to get round the decision of His Excellency the Governor-General; because, as my hon. Friend from Madura explained, I am sure the Hon. the Revenue Member realizes that, in spite of the magic of mathematics which we find in this Bill of multiplying by 20 and then saying 5 per cent of that multiple will be the compensation provided for the loss of inamdar's rights, one cannot get away from the fact that the compensation awarded is nominal. It reminds me of the practice of the Law Courts where even

though the plaintiff might be successful the judge may award him one pie as damages. What really the Government of Madras are trying to do is to get round the decision of His Excellency the Governor-General. I am not sure why this juggling in mathematics was adopted either by the Hon. Gentleman the Revenue Member or his technical advisers. I am not sure whether the Hon. Gentleman consulted the Board of Revenue over this Bill as to the quantum of compensation provided for the loss of this valuable right. I am sure the Board of Revenue possess some statistics to prove the value of the inamdar's rights. As my hon. Friend from Madura pointed out, there have been decisions of the High Court which have put the amount of the value of the kudivaram right of the inamdar at 3/5 in one particular case and as much as 2/3 in another case in the matter of land acquisition. The very legislation which we are now trying to amend, the Estates Land Act, provides for the acquisition of ryoti land by the zamindar for his purposes. Under it the amount of compensation to be given to each ryot should be decided under the provisions of the Land Acquisition Act. I am sure the Hon. Gentleman the Revenue Member has sufficient reason for having arrived at this mathematical conundrum. I am sure he will explain to us the reason why he arrived at this particular conclusion in the matter of the quantum of compensation. At the same time I should like to put to him, does he not think it right that after all this controversy that has gone on round this measure of the kudivaram right of the inamdars, that there should be a proper committee to go into the whole question and settle the amount of compensation that ought to be awarded to the inamdar? If the Government feel so strong over the rights of the tenants, I should like to put before them the example of the Irish case, where when the Government in England wanted to give the right of occupancy to the Irish tenants, the Government themselves found the money for giving such compensation. If the Government are shedding such tears for the plight of the inam tenant, I say it is up to them to find the requisite amount of money for compensating the inamdar for the loss of his valuable right so that they can invest the tenants with the right of occupancy. I am sure that will be the right step to take and that will require investigation by a committee, impartial in its nature, perhaps composed of Judges of the High Court. If this is done, I am sure even His Excellency the Viceroy who will have eventually to give his assent to this Bill, will be satisfied that every step has been taken to settle the right of the inamdar in the proper light and the quantum of compensation that ought to be awarded to the inamdar. Under these circumstances I would appeal to the Government not to rush and regret but to wait and see."

* The Hon. Sir CHARLES SOUTER:—" Mr. President, Sir, I have listened with very considerable care and attention to all the criticisms that have been advanced against this Bill. Honestly I think these criticisms have proceeded, at any rate in my opinion, on various lines

which are irrelevant. After all, this is not a new measure of legislation. My hon. Friend the Leader of the Opposition must admit that on principle at any rate this measure has already been passed three times by this House. It has been remitted twice by Governors of Madras; the Bill on such remission has been considered by the House and it has been passed. It is only now that the Governor-General has refused his assent that it has come before the House again. I would particularly invite the attention of hon. Members to this fact that the Bill which we are now introducing in all essentials is exactly the same Bill as has been passed by this House three times before. Let us get that well into our minds. The only alteration, the only essential alteration in this Bill is in consequence of the message which we have received from the Governor-General and this Bill purports and intends to do no more than carry out the desire of the Governor-General. Even if I run the risk of reiteration, it is relevant for me to read out again the exact words in which the Governor-General has refused his assent. These are his words: 'I have reached the conclusion that the Act is expropriatory in that it involves the loss of the kudivaram of lands included in their inams by those inamdars who under the existing law would be in a position to establish their ownership of the kudivaram.' Mark those words, only those inamdars who are in a position to establish their ownership of the kudivaram under the existing law. Then he goes on to say 'and that a measure producing this result with no provision for the compensation of persons adversely affected should not be allowed to become law.' Then he proceeds to say 'I desire at the same time to make it abundantly plain' mark these words 'that this conclusion is in no way based on opposition'; opposition to what? Opposition to the general principles of the Bill which this House passed three times. These are his words 'and implies no opposition to the proposition that the tenants of inamdars should be placed in a position enabling them to acquire occupancy rights and that I have been constrained to withhold my assent from the present measure by reason only of the fact that it fails to provide equitable compensation for the inamdars whose rights are affected thereby.' From these words it is abundantly clear that the Governor-General has been pleased to approve the general principle of the Bill which this House has passed three times, in other words, that the tenants of inamdars should be given occupancy right. By conferring occupancy right upon the tenant, it is only fair that no harm is done to the inamdar, only to the inamdar who can prove that, under the existing law, he possesses the kudivaram right; only in those cases it should be provided in the Bill that the inamdar should get compensation. These are the basic facts of the case. A great deal of argument has been advanced to-day which, without any discourtesy to hon. Members, I consider irrelevant in view of these facts. It is useless, it seems to me, now to go round, after what I have stated, and criticize the whole of the general principles of the Bill. Those principles have already been accepted

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not only by this House but by the Governor-General and it seems to me to argue from the very beginning as if we were only just now starting this legislation, is wrong. What we have to do is to go one step further from the position that we have taken up, namely, that it has been decided to all intents and purposes to confer occupancy right on inam tenants and to decide that in certain cases the inamdar shall be compensated for any loss he may sustain by conferring the occupancy right on the tenants. That is, in so many words, the exact position. It seems to me, that the requests for a committee, for investigation, for statistics and so on are quite beside the point. We have been, for the last five years, doing nothing else than thinking of these things and to start them again now and go over the whole ground again seems to me to be almost preposterous. We have sufficient material; this Bill has been passed by this House three times. Therefore, Sir, it seems to me that these points that have been raised now as to the quantum of compensation and the means by which the compensation shall be settled and the court through which it shall be settled and so on are details to be considered in the Select Committee and nowhere else. These are the points which we have to consider. If the compensation that is fixed in the Bill, of which humorous criticism was made, is incorrect, let the Select Committee, by all means, settle it. If the Members of the Select Committee consider that some other formula is the correct one and confers appropriate benefit on the inamdar, there is no objection whatever to the Select Committee recommending to this House that that line of action should be adopted.

"Then, it was said: 'Why not consult people throughout the 3-30 p.m.
Presidency as to the merits of this Bill' and so on. But if we do so, naturally every tenant will say that no compensation is possible; and every inamdar will say that 'the compensation you are trying to give us is too little.' And so, we can't come to any agreement that way. I think therefore that the best thing is to send this to the Select Committee; and by doing so we at any rate will have some sort of measure of agreement in this House. Therefore, Sir, I must oppose the motion that this Bill should be circulated for eliciting public opinion. It seems to me that it will merely be complicating plain matters in a case in which, in my opinion, there has been far too much delay already. And that will give us in the end, I think, no material on which we can judge whether this measure is a good measure or a bad measure. That, as I said, is a matter of detail which must be threshed out in the Select Committee and cannot be gained by circulation or inviting opinion. Sir, I must oppose this motion, and I trust that the House will not pass it."

Mr. V. P. NARAYANAN NAMBIYAR:—" Sir, I move that the question be now put."

Diwan Bahadur A. APPADURAI PILLAI:—" I second it."

The motion for closure was put and declared carried. Dr. P. Subbarayan demanded a poll and it was taken with the following result:—

Ayes.

1 The Hon. Rai Bahadur Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu.
2 ,, Rao Bahadur A. T. Pannirselvam.
3 ,, Sir Charles Souter.
4 ,, Mr. G. T. H. Bracken
5 ,, Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar.
6 ,, Mr. P. T. Rajan.
7 ,, the Raja of Bobbili.
8 Diwan Bahadur C. Natesa Mudaliyar.
9 Mrs. K. Alamelumangathayaramma.
10 Mr. W. Scott Brown.
11 ,, H. R. Uzielli.
12 ,, C. E. Jones.
13 ,, H. M. Hood.
14 ,, R. Madanagopal Nayudu.
15 ,, T. B. Russell
16 ,, T. Sundara Rao Nayudu.
17 Khan Sahib Syed Tajuddin Sahib Bahadur.
18 Mr. R. M. Palat.
19 ,, I. C. Iswaran Pillai.
20 Diwan Bahadur R. Srinivasan.
21 ,, A. Appadurai Pillai.
22 Mr. G. Ranganatha Mudaliyar.
23 Khan Bahadur Yahya Ali Sahib Bahadur.
24 Mr. M. Devadasan.
25 Rao Sahib N. Siva Raj.
26 Zamindar of Kirlampudi.
27 Mr. P. C. Moses.
28 ,, J. M. Smith.
29 ,, G. F. F. Foulkes.
30 ,, N. Ranganatham.
31 ,, P. K. Ramachandra Padayachi.
32 Rao Sahib V. Dharmalingam Pillai
33 Rao Bahadur D. Krishnamurti.
34 Sriman M. G. Patnaik Mahasay (Special Member).
35 Khan Bahadur Mahmud Schamnad Sahib Bahadur.
36 Zamindar of Bodinayakanur.
37 Mr. G. Sriramulu.
38 ,, C. Indrayya.
39 Khan Bahadur T. M. Moidoo Sahib Bahadur.
40 Rao Sahib C. Jayaram Nayudu.
41 ,, D. V. Narasimhaswami.
42 ,, Pandit Ganala Ramamurti.
43 Mr. K. Kesavaramamurti.
44 ,, M. B. Rangaswami Reddi.
45 ,, A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar.
46 ,, K. P. Raman Menon.
47 Zamindar of Chemudu.
48 Mr. H. B. Ari Gowder.
49 ,, G. R. Premayya.
50 ,, P. M. Thangal.
51 ,, V. P. Narayanan Nambiyar.
52 ,, M. S. Sreshta.
53 Rao Sahib V. I. Muniswami Pillai.
54 Mr. A. Ramakrishna Reddi.
55 ,, H. M. Jagannatham.
56 ,, K. M. Duraiswami Reddiyar.
57 Diwan Bahadur M. Gopalaswami Mudaliyar.
58 Rao Bahadur Subadar-Major S. A. Nanjanna Bahadur.
59 Diwan Bahadur S. Ellappa Chettiyar.
60 Mr. C. Basu Dev.
61 Mahboob Ali Baig Sahib Bahadur.

Noes.

1 Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. Patro.
2 Dr. P. Subbarayan.
3 Mr. K. R. Venkatarama Ayyar.
4 Diwan Bahadur T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar.
5 Mr. T. C. Srinivasa Ayyangar.
6 Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur.
7 Basheer Ahmed Sayeed Sahib Bahadur.
8 Mr. T. S. Ramaswami Ayyar.
9 ,, V. T. Arasu.
10 ,, A. B. Shetty.
11 Mr. M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar.
12 A. M. Ahmed Meeran Sahib Bahadur.
13 Mr. P. Peddi Raju.
14 ,, K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder.
15 ,, K. Koti Reddi.
16 ,, N. Halasyam Ayyar.
17 ,, U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt.
18 Mrs. A. Rukmani Lakshmipathi.
19 Mr. P. R. Thevar.
20 ,, C. Obi Reddi.
21 ,, R. Dalavoi.

Ayes 61. *Noes* 21.

The motion was carried.

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I shall now put the amendment first to the vote of the House.

"The question is that the Bill be circulated for the purpose of eliciting opinion thereon."

The motion was put and declared lost.

Mr. K. R. Venkatarama Ayyar demanded a poll, and it was taken with the following result:—

Ayes.

1 Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. Patro.
2 Dr. P. Subbarayan.
3 Mr. K. R. Venkatarama Ayyar.
4 Diwan Bahadur T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar.
5 Mr. T. C. Srinivasa Ayyangar.
6 Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur.
7 Basheer Ahmed Sayeed Sahib Bahadur.
8 Mr. T. S. Ramaswami Ayyar.
9 ,, V. T. Arasu.
10 ,, A. B. Shetty.
11 ,, M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar.
12 A. M. Ahmed Meeran Sahib Bahadur.
13 Mr. P. Peddi Raju.
14 ,, K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder.
15 ,, K. Koti Reddi.
16 ,, N. Halasyam Ayyar.
17 ,, U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt.
18 Mrs. A. Rukmani Lakshmipathi.
19 Mr. P. R. Thevar.
20 ,, C. Obi Reddi.
21 ,, R. Dalavoi.
22 The Zamindar of Chemudu.
23 Mr. H. B. Ari Gowder.

Noes.

1 The Hon. Rai Bahadur Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu.
2 ,, Rao Bahadur A. T. Pannirselvam.
3 ,, Sir Charles Souter.
4 ,, Mr. G. T. H. Bracken.
5 ,, Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar.
6 ,, Mr. P. T. Rajan.
7 ,, the Raja of Bobbili.
8 Diwan Bahadur C. Natesa Mudaliyar.
9 Mrs K. Alamelumangathayaramma.
10 Mr. W. Scott Brown.
11 ,, H. R. Uzielli.
12 ,, C. E. Jones.
13 ,, H. M. Hood.
14 ,, R. Madanagopal Nayudu.
15 ,, T. B. Russell.
16 ,, T. Sundara Rao Nayudu.
17 Khan Sahib Syed Tajuddin Sahib Bahadur.
18 Mr. R. M. Palat.
19 ,, I. C. Iswaran Pillai.
20 Diwan Bahadur R. Srinivasan.
21 ,, A. Appadurai Pillai.
22 Mr. G. Ranganatha Mudaliyar.
23 Khan Bahadur Yahya Ali Sahib Bahadur.
24 Mr. M. Devadasan.
25 Rao Sahib N. Siva Raj.
26 Zamindar of Kirlampudi.
27 Mr. P. C. Moses.
28 ,, J. M. Smith.
29 ,, G. F. F. Foulkes.
30 ,, N. Ranganatham.
31 ,, P. K. Ramachandra Padayachi.
32 Rao Sahib V. Dharmalingam Pillai.
33 Rao Bahadur D. Krishnamurti.
34 Sriman M. G. Patnaik Mahasayo (Special Member).
35 Khan Bahadur Mahmud Schamnad Sahib Bahadur.
36 Zamindar of Bodinayakanur.
37 Mr. G. Sriramulu.
38 ,, C. Indrayya.
39 Khan Bahadur T. M. Moidoo Sahib Bahadur.
40 Rao Sahib C. Jayaram Nayudu.
41 ,, D. V. Narasimhaswami.
42 ,, Pandit Ganala Ramamurti.
43 Mr. K. Kesavaramamurti.
44 ,, M. B. Rangaswami Reddi.
45 ,, A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar.
46 ,, K. P. Raman Menon.
47 ,, G. R. Premayya.
48 ,, P. M. Thangal.
49 ,, V. P. Narayanan Nambiyar.
50 ,, M. S. Sreshta.

Noes—cont.

51 Rao Sahib V. I. Muniswami Pillai.
52 Mr. A. Ramakrishna Reddi.
53 ,, H. M. Jagannatham.
54 ,, K. M. Duraiswami Reddiyar.
55 Diwan Bahadur M. Gopalaswami Mudaliyar.
56 Rao Bahadur Subadar-Major S. A. Nanjappa Bahadur.
57 Diwan Bahadur S. Ellappa Chettiyar.
58 Mr. C. Basu Dev.
59 Mahboob Ali Baig Sahib Bahadur.

Ayes 23. *Noes* 59.

The motion was lost.

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—" Is Sir A. P. Patro, moving his second amendment? "

* Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—" Yes, Sir, I move—

' *That the consideration of the motion be adjourned to 30th October* 1936.'

Sir, I had no idea that I would be obliged to move this second motion but for the speech made by the Hon. the Revenue Member. I submit, Sir, that if we accept the *ipse dixits* of the Hon. the Revenue Member that the principles of the Bill have been settled already and that the only thing newly introduced here is the special tribunal, it will be against all constitutional practice. If that is the position taken up by the Government—not to bring in for discussion any provisions which have been returned, but to bring in only new provisions—it is opposed to all constitutional precedents and constitutional law. When a Bill has been refused assent, the whole Bill goes out, every provision contained in it; and every provision in the new Bill is open for full discussion in the House. It is wrong to say that because the Governor-General has stated that he has no objection to the other provisions of the Bill and so on and so forth, therefore only the new provisions are open for discussion. On the other hand, if a Bill has not been assented to, the whole Bill falls through and subsequently every provision is a new provision. That is the constitutional position with regard to the Bill. That being so, I am surprised at his saying 'Oh! the principles have been accepted by this House three times already and therefore you should accept this Bill as it is.' I am not able to subscribe to such a position; and I am quite sure that if he will reflect very calmly, he will agree that his position, constitutionally, is unsound. If it is not so, why should it be called a new Bill? We find it is Bill No. 11 of 1936. If it is not a new Bill, why should you not call it the old Bill coming in a new form, with the additional provision of a clause or two? As the Government have chosen to call it a new Bill, they must take the consequences, that the principles of the Bill—whatever they may be and whether they have been discussed twice, thrice or ten times—must be discussed again by this House. Sir, it is the privilege of this House to discuss the provisions of a Bill though such provisions have been discussed ten times already. The very facts

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that the Bill has been under consideration for the last three years and that it is being rushed through at every stage show that this is a very hasty piece of legislation, that the principles of the Bill have not been fully and thoroughly accepted by the House. Therefore, the Government have no right to claim that the principles should not be discussed now. Sir, to support that position, I may refer to section 81 of the Act itself where it is specifically stated that when assent is not given by the Governor-General the whole Bill goes out. Whatever may be said against it, I submit that the reasons given for the veto are not relevant at all, nor is it relevant to say that because the Governor-General has made some remarks in the course of his note regarding the veto, those remarks are relevant here. The only relevant point for our consideration is that the Bill before the House has numerous clauses, and although most of these clauses have been already discussed in this House, it is the privilege of this House to discuss them once more in the light of new clauses introduced. It is not irrelevant, and it is highly desirable that we should have a full discussion again in this House on those clauses which are affected by the new provisions.

" No one has any right to say that the discussion is irrelevant and 3-4 p.m. is outside the purview of this House. The Bill is there and we are entitled to discuss the Bill on its merits and each clause we are entitled to go into. I think it takes the Front Bench too long to know what the constitutional implications of a Bill being returned for reconsideration are. This is a discussion which arises out of the conduct of the Government in pushing this Bill in so hurried a manner and without previous consultation of public opinion. That is the point that I want to make out and the Government must take the consequences of their own conduct and not throw the blame on the Members of this House. It is all very well sitting on the Front Bench without responsibility, with nominated members behind, but it is not fair for a responsible or a responsive executive to say that the principles have been accepted and that we are irrelevant.

" Sir, in addition to the reasons which I have already stated for the circulation of the Bill, I would say that the most important point which I expected that the Government would reply to is about the composition of the special or supreme court. Not having had any reply to such a question like that, I am sure hon. Members who have any consideration for the rights of people would agree with me that in this state of things it is impossible to go further into the matter."

* Mr. K. R. VENKATARAMA AYYAR :—" Mr. President, Sir, I have much pleasure in seconding the motion moved by my hon. Friend, Sir Parasuramdas Patro. The fate of the previous motion by no means involves a similar result to this motion. Government have no doubt carried the day by their voting strength so far as the circulation of the Bill for the eliciting of opinion is concerned, but certain facts had

better be brought to the notice of the Government and it is as well that I bring them prominently to the attention of the House. One is that the Governor-General refused his assent quite recently. This Bill has been published only a few days ago and a large body of inamdars are going to be affected by this Bill. Certain principles are embodied in this Bill, especially the principle in regard to the provision for compensation. That at any rate is a new provision and in regard to that the inamdars should certainly have a reasonable opportunity to communicate with one another and with the general body at headquarters representing their interests. It is important that data should be collected on their side which would have to be brought up before the Select Committee which is proposed by the Government. By no means should the proposition be allowed to go unchallenged that the exchange value of the kudivaram right of the inamdar should be a year's rental value. Undoubtedly kudivaram right has been the subject-matter of a large number of sales under registered sale-deeds and where kudivaram proper has not alone been the subject of the sale, but kudivaram plus melvaram, the sale-deed would afford a very good guidance for estimating the sale price of the kudivaram interest; and this is a matter in regard to which some time would be necessary on the part of the inamdar to collect and bring the data before the Select Committee. The passing of this second motion of Sir Parasuramdas would certainly give an opportunity for inamdars to collect all this data and bring them to the attention of the Select Committee. That is one thing.

"Sir, a reason which probably led to the result of the division which we have just now had, is rather a misleading reason propounded by the Hon. the Revenue Member. The Hon. the Revenue Member has been saying that during the last three or four years this measure has been passed on sufficient data by this House thrice and Governors have sent down the Bill for reconsideration twice and practically except for the new clause as to compensation it is a completed piece of legislation which has been considered more than once by this House and therefore there is nothing like data to be collected hereafter. I should say that this is a misleading reason, because the Hon. Sir Archibald Campbell so recently admitted that there were no data before the Government and they did not know any facts at all. Having admitted as much as that, the mere length of time that has elapsed over the consideration of this Bill without data does not really mean that the Bill has been considered on the strength of data. It is time wasted, admittedly wasted, over a seeming consideration of a contentious measure in the admitted absence of any data. This, Sir, I say is the misleading portion of the argument of the Hon. the Revenue Member. This is perhaps what Sir Parasuramdas Patro has had in mind as the main reason for moving his second motion, notwithstanding the defeat of the previous motion. I say, Sir, that it is absolutely necessary

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that in regard to this topic, we should proceed with full equipment and necessary knowledge and not merely because one Bill has been vetoed therefore the same Bill should be pushed through with a seeming adherence to the Governor-General's requirement but with a substantial violation of it in spirit. I think in all humility we, on our side, may well claim that sound reasoning is on our side and numerical strength alone is on the other side."

* The Hon. Sir CHARLES SOUTER:—"Sir, I think I must oppose this motion. First of all, I really cannot understand the position of my hon. Friend, Sir Parasuramdas Patro. I see that on the 25th October 1934, barely 18 months ago, he delivered himself thus:—

'That apart, I do feel sincerely and am grateful that the Hon. the Revenue Member has been able to place this measure on record. It is a very important measure of reform of the land law. It is not always that Members of Government are able to bring in and pilot with such ability and with such foresight far-reaching measures like the one we have now passed . . .' "

Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—"I do maintain that position even now, Sir."

* The Hon. Sir CHARLES SOUTER:—"He goes on to say—

'It is to the credit of the Hon. the Revenue Member that he has been able to take up this legislation in spite of the previous failures of the Government.'

I don't think there will be any more failure on the part of the Government. Then he says

'I yield to none in my appreciation of the fact that this measure goes very far towards helping the ryots.'

I do not want to read anything further, Sir.

"Quite apart from that, I quite agree that here is a measure which is brought before this House for being passed into law some time or other and that this House is competent in every way to discuss every clause of this measure. I quite agree. But that is not my point. As I said before, most of the discussion that had gone on previously was to this extent irrelevant, that when the principles of the Bill have already been three times accepted by this House, is the House now prepared to recede from the position which it has so consistently adopted during the last three years? That is my point. They may of course stultify themselves if they wish to do so. It will be a great pity if they do so, but if they do, I very much doubt whether it will redound to the credit and the sound judgment of the Madras Legislative Council. Sir, I can see no reason at all for fixing any date before which this Bill should be passed. I propose to hold meetings of the Select Committee at Ootacamund in a place where the measure which requires for its consideration freedom from excessive heat may be considered and where we may proceed with the deliberations in a cool and collected manner. I do not propose to rush it through in any way; on the contrary I propose to hold Select Committee meetings as often as necessary

some time in June and perhaps bring this Bill during the August session of the Council. In the meanwhile, I certainly welcome any representation from anybody, whether from the tenants or the inamdars, giving their views on this measure; and all those opinions will certainly be placed before the Select Committee for its consideration. It seems to me that four months' time is ample during which to consider this measure as it now stands. In view of the fact, again I must say, that this House has been seized of practically the same measure for the last three years, this motion seems to me to be one advocating dilatoriness; and that is certainly not one of the propositions which I can approve of. I must therefore, in the circumstances, oppose this motion."

Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—" I beg to withdraw the motion, Sir."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—" There are a few amendments for adding some more names to the Select Committee. I will have to put them one after another unless they are withdrawn."

The Hon. Sir CHARLES SOUTER:—" I propose that Mr. P. M. Thangal's name be added to the list which I have already given notice of."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—" For the information of the House I will read out the names of the members that are proposed to be added to the list of names already proposed:

Mr. P. M. Thangal.

Mr. G. Sriramulu.

Mrs. A. Rukmani Lakshmipathi.

Mr. R. Dalavoi.

Sir A. P. Patro.

Mr. K. R. Venkatarama Ayyar.

The Pattagar of Palayakottai.

The Zamindar of Chemudu.

Mr. K. P. V. S. Muhammad Meera Ravuttar."

The Hon. Sir CHARLES SOUTER:—" Sir, if it is proposed in this way, then the whole House will go into Committee."

Sir A. P. PATRO:—" Sir, I am thankful for the gentleman who proposed my name, but I am sorry I will not be in a position to take part in the Select Committee."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—" Sir Parasuramdas Patro is not willing to serve on the Select Committee. The whole House cannot go into committee. I will put the names one after another to the vote of the House."

The addition of the name of Mr. P. M. Thangal was put and carried.

AHMED MEERAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" I move that the name of Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed be added to the list."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" I second it."

The motion was put and lost.

Mr. N. HALASAYAM AYYAR:—" I move for the addition of the name of Mr. R. Dalavoi."

The Hon. Sir CHARLES SOUTER:—" I am prepared to accept Mrs. A. Lakshmipathi in substitution of Mr. C. Ramalinga Reddi who I understand will be unable to be present."

Mr. N. HALASYAM AYYAR:—" With regard to Mr. Dalavoi he is the biggest inamdar in the south and he will be . . ."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—" I do not think it is very pleasant to have discussion upon these amendments."

The motion for the substitution of Mrs. A. Rukmani Lakshmipathi for Mr. C. Ramalinga Reddi was put and carried.

Mr. N. Halasyam Ayyar's motion was by leave withdrawn.

The motion to refer the Bill to the Select Committee with the addition of Mr. P. Madhusudhanan Tangal and the substitution of Mrs. A. Rukmani Lakshmipathi for Mr. C. Ramalinga Reddi was put and carried.

VIII.—A BILL FURTHER TO AMEND THE MADRAS COMMERCIAL CROPS MARKETS ACT, 1933, FOR CERTAIN PURPOSES (BILL No. 12 OF 1936).

* The Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—" Mr. President, Sir, I beg to introduce the Bill [a] further to amend the Madras Commercial Crops Markets Act, 1933, for certain purposes (Bill No. 12 of 1936) and move that the Bill be taken into consideration at once. Sir, I would like to point out that the Bill is a simple one in character. Sections 3 and 4 as they stand do not impose an obligation on the part of the owners of ginning factories to take out licences though the intention of the Select Committee which went into the Bill in the year 1933 was that these men also should be brought within the scope of these sections. If I read out the recommendation of the Select Committee it will clarify the position:

'While we are satisfied that the growers of certain kinds of commercial crops in this Presidency need protection and improved facilities, we feel that existing agencies such as gin factory owners and mandi merchants are performing useful functions in that they advance moneys to growers and provide warehouse accommodation, and that in any legislation effected for the regulation of purchases and sales in any local area, these persons should be recognized by the issue of licences enabling them to continue their trade.'

" Unfortunately, Sir, by some oversight when the Act was passed by the Council these two classes of persons were omitted. Now it is

[a] Published in the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 19th March 1936.

proposed to rectify that mistake. In the statement of objects and reasons it is clearly stated that the owners of ginning and pressing factories have not taken out licences as their premises are not primarily meant for purchase or sale though purchases and sales very often take place there though not to, or by, their owners but between third parties. It is proposed to bring them within the scope of this Act. The Cotton Market Committee which was brought into existence recently considered this matter and their recommendation was that these two classes of persons should take out licences. Sir, under the Act the Committee has been empowered to levy a cess on cotton. Rules framed under the Act permit the Committee to levy a cess on all cotton coming into the market area and when the Committee wanted to find out ways and means of collecting the cess it was found that it will not be possible to collect it on the incoming and so they proposed to collect cess on cotton leaving the market area. By that process it is hoped that it will be possible to collect all the cess and see that a check is there so that people do not evade payment. Now it is proposed by making it obligatory on the part of the mandi-owners and owners of pressing and ginning factories to collect the cess on behalf of the Committee. This is the second reason why it is necessary to amend the Act. One other section has been copied from the Local Boards Act making a provision for any one who does not attend the meetings of the Committee consecutively for three meetings to be removed from the Committee. The other two sections are merely consequential. I do hope the House will accept them. No doubt, Sir, I am aware there is a motion that this Bill be referred to a Select Committee. In the ordinary course of events I should have been too willing to oblige hon. Members and refer the matter to a Select Committee. But in this case, the amendment proposed is simple and if it is not passed, the working of the Act will be nullified this year. After a great deal of trouble we brought the Act into force only three months back. If the Bill is not passed now we shall lose one year in working the Act. I may also say in fairness to the owners of the factories that they are willing to co-operate with the Committee in taking out licences. In these circumstances I do hope the House will accept the Bill and pass it."

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"I second it."

* Mr. V. T. ARASU:—"I rise to oppose the motion made by my Hon. Friend, the Minister for Public Works. The Hon. Member in moving the motion that the Bill be taken into consideration has said that it is a very urgent matter and if this Bill is not passed into law there will be a deadlock in the working of the Act and further work cannot be proceeded with. I should like to know which are the commercial centres where this has been in force. After all Tiruppur is the only town and I do not think anything would be lost within three or

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four months. I submit that there is no particular hurry for pushing this matter through. I also hear that representations have been made to the Minister by some of the merchants and ginning factory owners in Tiruppur protesting against these amendments. It is pointed out that there are several instances of ginning factories and mills where no business transactions even between third parties are effected. The Hon. Minister is not, therefore, correct in saying that all ginning factories form marketing places where business transaction is carried on. There are instances of ginning factories where no such transactions take place. It would be unfair to these ginning factories where no business transaction is entered into, if they should be compelled to take out licences. Therefore I strongly oppose the Bill and I suggest that the Minister may think over the matter in greater detail and come forward with this Bill at a subsequent meeting.

"There is also one more reason why I think that this Bill should not be passed now. The Hon. Minister is doubtless aware that there are several defects in this Commercial Crops Markets Act, which have been brought to the notice of the Government. When that is the case, why not bring a consolidated measure, why tinker with the matter? The Hon. Minister can come forward with another amending Bill in the August meeting. So, I suggest that a consolidated amending Bill may be brought before this House. For these reasons, I oppose the motion." 4-: p.m

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"I have only to correct one observation of my hon. friend who preceded me. He said that there is no urgency for this, and that it did not matter even if there was a delay of two or three months. I think it matters this way. The transactions take place every day, and if you want to levy a cess on the subject of these transactions even now, we have to pass it now. Otherwise, we may do it next year."

* The Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—"Sir, the Market Committee has recommended this, and as far as I am aware, no objection to this has been brought to the notice of the Government. It is on the recommendation of the Chairman of the Committee and in consultation with the officers there that the amendments have been brought forward before the House. Rules have to be made under this Act. The cotton season begins, I believe, from March or April, and unless this Bill is passed now, it will be practically keeping one set of people altogether outside the scope of this Act. As I pointed out, it was the intention of the Committee that this amendment should be passed, so that they may do some useful service both to the ryots and to the merchants. I also pointed out that the Chairman of the Committee has reported that all these owners of ginning and pressing factories are willing to co-operate with him and that there is no attempt on their part to take objection to this. On the other hand, they have promised to co-operate with the Committee in giving effect to this Act. Also, I may state, as pointed out in the Statement of Objects and Reasons, that though

some of the factories cannot sell or buy directly, such transactions take place in these factories, both pressing and ginning factories. An additional reason for saying that these men should be brought in is this: if these men are also brought under the scope of the Act, it will be easy and possible for the Committee to levy the necessary cess on cotton purchased or sold in the market area. I do hope that in spite of the objection taken by my hon. Friend, Mr. Arasu, the House will accept the Bill."

The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—" The question is—

' *that the Bill be taken into consideration at once* '."

The motion was put and carried.

Clauses 1 and 2 were then put and carried.

Clause 3.

* Diwan Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGAM CHETTIYAR:—" Sir, the clause provides that a person ceases to be a member if he does not attend three consecutive meetings of the Committee. Well, Sir, it may be due to reasons over which he has no control; he may be ill or it may be that he has some valid excuse for not attending the meetings. In such cases, both under the Local Boards Act, and the District Municipalities Act, power is given to the board or the council to restore the member if he shows valid reasons. The same provision may be introduced in the case of this Committee also. So, I propose that the wording of the Local Boards Act may be adopted here also. There the provision is:

' Where a person ceases to be a member under clause (*h*) of sub-section (1), the president shall at once intimate the fact in writing to such person and report the same to the board at its next meeting. If such person applies for restoration *suo motu* to the board on or before the date of its next meeting or within fifteen days of the receipt by him of such intimation, the board may at the meeting next after the receipt of such application restore him to his office of member:

' Provided that a member shall not be so restored more than twice during his term of office.'

I think this provision may be added to clause 3. So, I move the following amendment:—

' Add *the following after the Explanation in clause* 3:—

" *Where a person ceases to be a member under this proviso the Chairman shall at once intimate the fact in writing to such person and report the same to the Committee at its next meeting. If such person applies for restoration* suo motu *to the Committee on or before the date of its next meeting or within fifteen days of the receipt by him of such intimation, the Committee may at the meeting next after the receipt of such application restore him to his office of member provided that a member shall not be so restored more than twice during his term of office.*" ' "

The motion was duly seconded.

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* The Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—" Sir, I think it is necessary that every member of the Committee attends the meetings. So in order to see that members are alert, this provision has to be made. But I have no serious objection to accept the amendment proposed by my hon. Friend."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—" The question is—

' Add *the following after the Explanation in clause* 3:—

" *Where a person ceases to be a member under this proviso, the Chairman shall at once intimate the fact in writing to such person and report the same to the Committee at its next meeting. If such person applies for restoration* suo motu *to the Committee on or before the date of its next meeting or within fifteen days of the receipt by him of such intimation, the Committee may at the meeting next after the receipt of such application restore him to his office of member provided that a member shall not be so restored more than twice during his term of office* " '."

The amendment was put and carried.

Clause 3 as amended and clauses 4 and 5 were put and carried.

The preamble was then put and carried.

The Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—" I beg to move—

' *That the Bill be passed into law.*' "

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" I second it."

The motion was put and carried, and the Bill was passed into law.

IX.—THE MADRAS ESTATES LAND (AMENDMENT) BILL (BILL No. 10 OF 1936)

* The Hon. Sir CHARLES SOUTER:—" Sir, I beg to introduce the Madras Estates Land (Amendment) Bill [a] (Bill No. 10 of 1936) and move that the Bill be taken into consideration at once. Perhaps, Sir, I may just say a few words on it. This Bill merely extends further the moratorium which this Council extended until the 1st day of May 1936, by the amendment which we passed last October, I think. This measure is necessary until such time as this House passes the other Bill over which we had such discussion previously to-day. It safeguards the tenants from ejectment during this period. I do not think there is anything else for me to say. It is a measure which this House has already passed twice before, and I think it will be passed again now.

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" I second it."

The motion was put and carried and the Bill was taken into consideration.

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[a] Published in the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 10th March 1936.

* Mr. T. C. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR :—" I have only one question to ask. If suits for rent also will in any way be delayed or held up on account of this Bill, intimation may be given to revenue courts that this Bill only deals with cases of ejectment, both in regard to praying for decrees for ejectment and applications for ejectment. What I say is that the disposal of suits which merely relate to rents must not be affected."

The Hon. Sir CHARLES SOUTER :—" If I understand the suggestion correctly, the present Act does not extend to questions of suits for rent. Certainly, it is not for the Government to give instructions to the courts as suggested by the hon. Member."

Clause 1.

The Hon. Sir CHARLES SOUTER *:—" Sir, I move—*

' That for the words and figures " Madras Estates Land (Amendment) Act, 1936," the words and figures " Madras Estates Land (Second Amendment) Act, 1936 " be substituted '."

The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM :—" I second it."

The amendment was put and carried.

Clause 1 as amended and clause 2 were then put and carried.

The preamble was put and carried.

The Hon. Sir CHARLES SOUTER :—" Sir, I beg to move that the Bill be passed into law."

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR :—" I second it."

The motion was put and carried, and the Bill was passed into law.

X.—DEMANDS FOR SUPPLEMENTARY GRANTS FOR 1935-36.

(1) GRANT I—LAND REVENUE—RESERVED.

* The Hon. Sir CHARLES SOUTER :—" Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I beg to move that the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 62,100 under Grant I—Land Revenue—Reserved. Though the amount put down on the paper under this demand is Rs. 89,100, quite recently the Board of Revenue reported that under Assignments and Compensations—Other Charges a sum of Rs. 27,000 can be surrendered. Hon. Members will see that the item I referred to is item No. (8) on page 2 of the note explaining these grants. This item refers to payment to local boards of tree-tax collected by the revenue officers and assignment to local bodies of fishery rents collected by the Revenue Department. This is an item which is of a very fluctuating nature and it is very difficult to estimate the figure correctly, so that my supplementary demand is only for Rs. 62,100. I do not think it is necessary for me to say anything more than what has already been stated in the explanatory note [a] which all hon. Members have now got."

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

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[a] Printed as Appendix IV at page 999 infra.

(2) GRANT III—STAMPS—RESERVED.

* The Hon. Sir K. V. REDDI NAYUDU:—" Mr. President, Sir, on 4
the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I beg to move— P

'*That the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs.* 23,200 *under Grant III—Stamps—Reserved.*'

" The note [a] states clearly that this sum is required for purchasing the stamps to be sold again. The estimate that was made has been exceeded and more stamps are necessary."

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

(3) GRANT V—REGISTRATION—TRANSFERRED

* The Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—" Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I move—

'*That Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs.* 20,200 *under Grant V—Registration—Transferred.*'

" The explanatory note [b] gives the reasons why a supplementary demand has to be moved. One is that promotions of sub-registrars from the second grade to the first have to be made with retrospective effect, and the other is that a number of men have gone on leave on medical certificate. That is why Government have to come forward for a further grant. I may point out in this connexion that only a sum of Rs. 20,200 would be required though the original figure in the agenda was put down as Rs. 24,800."

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

(4) GRANT X—SECRETARIAT AND HEADQUARTERS ESTABLISHMENTS—DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION AND MISCELLANEOUS—RESERVED.

* The Hon. Sir CHARLES SOUTER:—" Mr. President, Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I beg to move—

'*That Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rupees* 1,51,400 *under Grant X—Secretariat and Headquarter Establishments—District Administration and Miscellaneous—Reserved.*

" The reason for the reduction from the original figure in the Agenda, viz., Rs. 1,56,500 is due to the fact that the Board of Revenue has now reported that the last item of Rs. 5,100 is not now required. There is a very complete explanatory note [c] on each of these items, and I do not think I can usefully add to it."

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

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a Printed as Appendix V at page 1003 infra.

b Printed as Appendix VI at page 1004 infra.

c Printed as Appendix VII at page 1005 infra.

(5) GRANT XIII—JAILS—RESERVED.

* The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu:—" Mr. President, Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I beg to move—

'*That Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 2,37,100 under Grant XIII—Jails—Reserved.*'

" Sir, this is due mainly for purchase of cotton and other materials required for the jail factories which comes to Rs. 90,000. Then, unexpectedly the number of prisoners have increased in jails and their dietary charges have come up to Rs. 69,000. The other items are given in the explanatory note.[a] I hope the House will grant the sum."

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

(6) GRANT XVII—EDUCATION—TRANSFERRED.

* The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar:—" Mr. President, Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I move—

'*That the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 2,91,600 under Grant XVII—Education—Transferred.*'

" The agenda shows that the sum for which motion is to be made is Rs. 3,02,300. It has been subsequently found that a sum of Rupees 10,700 can be found by reappropriation. So the original amount has been reduced to that extent, and the demand is only for Rs. 2,91,600. The explanatory note[b] that has been circulated to the hon. Members explains the matter quite fully."

Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder:—" Sir, I move—

'*That the allotment of Rs. 2,91,600 under Grant VII—Education—Transferred be reduced by Rs. 100.*'

" In moving this, I desire to point out that the backwardness or forwardness of education in each district should be taken into consideration. As it is, the Government are distributing the grants according to the assessed figures that are received from the various districts. What I say is that the progress of literacy of each district should be taken into consideration. Looking into the figures furnished by the Director of Public Instruction in his report for 1934–35, one would find that the percentage of scholars to population in respect of Salem district is at a very low ebb as compared with other districts. It is only 3·5 per cent, whereas in other districts it is as high as 10 per cent or even more. So I would urge that Government should take that point into consideration. (A voice: 'The Ceded districts.') Even in the Ceded districts it is higher than in Salem. These figures are furnished by a reliable authority, namely, the Director of Public Instruction. So I would urge that this point should be taken into consideration in the distribution of grants and the Grant-in-Aid Code revised soon accordingly.

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[a] Printed as Appendix VIII at page 1008 infra.

[b] Printed as Appendix IX at page 1009 infra.

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"Then, with regard to the fixing of grants for the various schools, I insist that some definite principles ought to be laid down. As at present, the educational authorities simply say that one school should have 40 or 50 per cent increase and another school 10 or 20 per cent decrease. So, we find that there are no regular principles in regulating this increase or decrease. There must be some rules for making these calculations for grants. As a matter of fact, in some educational councils certain principles are followed but in others there seem to be none and it would be very well if the educational authorities and the District Educational Councils follow some uniform principles in allotting their grants to each school.

"Then I pass on to another important matter, that is, the grant to the Pachaiyappa's College. When speaking on the demand under Education, I dealt with this subject. The Minister has come forward to ask for some amount. Even the Director of Public Instruction, though he is niggardly in his recommendations, with regard to this college he recommends a grant of Rs. 11,000. But ultimately it is reduced to Rs. 10,000, Rs. 5,000 under grants-in-aid and the other Rs. 5,000 only as special grant. This sort of treatment to this college is not at all satisfactory. Other colleges are getting more liberal grants. For instance, the Christian College is getting more as compared with the Pachaiyappa's College. I wish that the Hon. Minister would hereafter at least pay sufficient attention to this premier Hindu College. I think when the Hon. Minister presided over the anniversary of that college recently he has given some hopes that their request will be considered favourably and I wish that he translates those wishes into action and will see that this college gets a sufficient grant as also the necessary amount that may be required for a residential college which the management are contemplating to locate at Chetput by the side of the hostel."

Mr. M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar:—"Sir, may I appeal to the Hon. Minister to be more liberal in the matter of giving a special grant to the Pachaiyappa's College? I understand that there are certain technical difficulties brought in in the way of giving more liberal grants. In the case of Trichinopoly and other colleges, these difficulties did not stand in their way. Moreover, Sir, Pachaiyappa's College depends to a large extent on private endowments. In the matter of building grants also, I request the Hon. Minister to be more liberal. There is now a scheme of removing the Pachaiyappa's College to Chetpet. Though this does not arise on this demand, I beg to point out that the Hon. Minister must be more liberal in the matter of building grants."

Mr. T. S. Ramaswami Ayyar:—"While I welcome this grant of a large sum to help elementary education in the province, I am not quite satisfied with the manner in which such a large grant as 3 lakhs is brought in as supplementary demand. I find the sum is much less in the previous demand (Jails); a sum of Rs. 2,37,000 has been asked for as a supplementary demand, of which a sum of Rs. 90,000 is for purchase of raw material. Here under Education, a sum of Rs. 3,02,300 has been asked for. In the month of March, when we are finishing the accounts, *it is not right that the Legislative Council should be asked*

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to vote for large demands. My objection is this. The other day, speaking on the demand under Education, I pointed out that there is a very great need for having a policy, a well-defined policy, and spending the money according to it. I am afraid it is want of policy that makes us spend money at the fag end of the year. Otherwise, all this money would have found place in the original budget itself. Hon. Members have always been willing to vote for large sums when the original budget is brought forward before this House. But why should you bring in March, supplementary demands for large sums? That system is not a healthy system, and I would strongly protest against the manner in which they are brought forward under various heads."

15 1. * The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar :—" Sir, if the suggestion made by my hon. Friend, Mr. Nachiyappa Gounder, about regulating the grants for elementary education according to the standard of illiteracy prevailing in the different areas of the province is adopted, I do not know if his district will stand to gain. Most probably the Ceded Districts will be profited by any such rule as that. However, I am not going into that matter now. As I said before, the whole system of the assessment of grants to elementary schools is under examination along with very many matters by a committee.

" As regards the Pachaiyappa's College, I do not know if hon. Members are under the erroneous impression that Rs. 10,000 represents all the grant that the Government are giving to this College. This is a special grant which is given on account of the financial difficulty that they had in the year 1935–36. My hon. Friend, Mr. Manikkavelu Nayakar, is right in saying that some colleges got such special treatment in previous years. But they get it only in special circumstances. Only to enable the colleges to make good unexpected deficits does the Government come forward to make such grants.

" As regards my hon. Friend, Mr. Ramaswami Ayyar's criticism that such a large sum as 3 lakhs should not be asked for now at the end of the year, I do not think that the managers of the elementary schools will be thankful to him for that criticism. They will certainly welcome any increased grant. (Mr. T. S. Ramaswami Ayyar: 'Not as doles.') My hon. Friend will remember that 51 lakhs had been provided for in the budget. At the time when the budget was prepared that was all the amount that it was possible to provide and it was not also realized then that with this provision there will be a larger cut in the grants than in the previous year. So, as I said the other day, we have to be very thankful to the Hon. the Finance Member for his having given us three lakhs more so as to avoid any very large cut in the elementary education grant. I do not think there is anything wrong in our having come forward with this demand even at the end of March. I do realize that it is necessary to provide more funds, but this is all that it was possible for the Government to allot now. I hope the House will accept this explanation and pass the demand."

The cut motion was by leave withdrawn.

The Demand was then put and carried and the Grant was made.

(7) GRANT XXII—CIVIL VETERINARY SERVICES—TRANSFERRED.

* The Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—"Mr. President, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I move—

'*That the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 26,000 under Grant XXII—Civil Veterinary Services—Transferred.*'

"The explanatory note [a] submitted to hon. Members contains the reasons for this demand. The items of expenditure include travelling allowance for touring staff, tour charges, purchase of sera and so on."

Mr. T. S. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"Mr. President, Sir, I have only one remark to offer with regard to this grant. I find from the explanatory note that large amounts were required for purchase of serum from Muktesar. We have been long complaining that this Government ought to have its own arrangements for preparing vaccine. They yielded to the pressure in this direction and are now getting vaccine prepared in Madras itself. For a long time we have depended upon Muktesar for our supplies and we have found that it is costly. That is why the Government have been making the vaccine here. With regard to the goat serum I find that the Mysore Government have already started making it. When other Governments are going ahead in regard to these matters connected with the eradication of the cattle diseases, our Madras Government merely follow them. I do not see why we should not have a forward programme. They should introduce the goat virus inoculations more and more."

* The Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—"The demand for a large quantity of serum from Muktesar is due to the prevalance of Blackquarter and Hæmorrhagic Septicæmia in a severe form in several districts. As a matter of fact the Government have been preparing serum only for protecting cattle against rinderpest."

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made

(8) GRANT XXVI—FISHERIES—TRANSFERRED.

* The Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—"Mr. President, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I move—

'*That the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 22.000 under Grant XXVI—Fisheries—Transferred.*'

The note [b] deals very briefly with the reasons for this Demand."

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

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[a] Printed as Appendix X at page 1012 infra.

[b] Printed as Appendix XI at page 1013 infra.

(9) *GRANT XXXIII—PENSIONS—RESERVED.*

* The Hon. Mr. G. T. H. BRACKEN:—" Mr. President, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I beg to move—

' *That the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 3,35,300 under Grant XXXIII—Pensions—Reserved.*'

The reasons for this additional grant are given in the note.[a] This is an unavoidable expenditure."

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

(10) GRANT XXXV—MISCELLANEOUS—RESERVED AND TRANSFERRED.

* The Hon. Mr. G. T. H. BRACKEN:—" Mr. President, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I move—

' *That the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs.* 51,400 *under* [b] *Grant XXXV—Miscellaneous—Reserved and Transferred* '."

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

(11) GRANT XXXVII—EXPENDITURE IN ENGLAND OTHER THAN ON STORES—RESERVED AND TRANSFERRED.

* The Hon. Mr. G. T. H. BRACKEN:—" Mr. President, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I move—

' *That the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs.* 86,600 *under* [c] *Grant XXXVII—Expenditure in England other than on Stores—Reserved and Transferred* '."

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

(12) GRANT XXXVIII—REFUNDS OF REVENUE—RESERVED AND TRANSFERRED.

* The Hon. Mr. G. T. H. BRACKEN:—" Mr. President, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I beg to move—

' *That the Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs.* 23,000 *under* [d] *Grant XXXVIII—Refunds of Revenue—Reserved and Transferred* '."

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

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[a] Printed as Appendix XII at page 1014 infra.

[b] For Explanatory Note—vide Appendix XIII at page 1015 infra.

[c] For Explanatory Note—vide Appendix XIV at page 1016 infra.

[d] For Explanatory Note—vide Appendix XV at page 1018 infra.

XI.—AMENDMENTS TO STANDING ORDERS NOS. 28, 30 AND 55.

* The Hon. Sir K. V. REDDI NAYUDU:—"Mr. President, Sir, I beg to present the report [a] of the Select Committee appointed to consider amendments to the Standing Orders Nos. 28, 30 and 55 of the Madras Legislative Council and move that the report be taken into consideration."

The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM:—"I second it."

The motion was put and carried and the report was taken into consideration.

* The Hon. Sir K. V. REDDI NAYUDU:—"I beg to move that the amendments be passed.

"Hon. Members are all aware of what these amendments are. All these are with reference to the need for seconding the motions moved in the House. These were discussed in a private conference called by the Hon. the President. They were referred to a select committee and the select committee passed them unanimously."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The question is that amendments to Standing Orders Nos. 28, 30 and 55 be passed."

The motion was carried and the amendments were passed.

The House then adjourned to meet again at 11 a.m. the next day.

D. K. V. RAGHAVA VARMA,
Acting Secretary to the Legislative Council.

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[a] Printed as Appendix XVI at page 1019 infra.

APPENDIX I.

[Vide answer to question No. 1042 asked by Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 26th March 1936, page 924 supra.]

Statement showing the names of municipal councils which applied to Government in 1935 and so far in 1936 for sanction of their proposals to reduce the rate of tax on cycles and other connected particulars.

Serial number and name of municipal council.	Rates as existed per half-year.	Rates as proposed per half-year.	Dates from which the reduction is to be given effect to.	Number and date of Government Orders on the proposals.	Nature of orders passed.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.			
1 Bezwada	2 0 0	1 0 0	1st April 1935	G.O. No. 632, L. & M., dated 18th February 1935	Approved.
2 Nellore	2 0 0	1 0 0	Do.	G.O. No. 1401, L. & M., dated 5th April 1935	Not sanctioned.
3 Bellary	2 0 0	1 0 0	....	G.O. No. 1828, L. & M., dated 13th May 1935	Do.
4 Erode	2 0 0	1 0 0	1st October 1935	G.O. No. 2191, L. & M., dated 10th June 1935	Not approved.
5 Kodaikanal	2 0 0	1 8 0	1st April 1936	G.O. No. 2545, L. & M., dated 2nd July 1935	Sanctioned.
6 Madura	2 0 0	1 0 0	1st October 1935	G.O. No. 3002, L. & M., dated 25th July 1935	Not approved.
	2 0 0	1 0 0	1st April 1936. Under correspondence with the Commissioner.		
7 Cannanore	2 0 0	1 0 0	1st April 1936	G.O. No. 3218, L. & M., dated 8th August 1935	Not sanctioned.
8 Palamcottah	2 0 0	1 0 0	Do.	G.O. No. 3221, L. & M., dated 8th August 1935	Do.
	2 0 0	1 0 0	Do.	G.O. No. 970, L. & M., dated 10th March 1936	Sanctioned.
9 Tinnevelly	2 0 0	0 4 0	1st October 1935	G.O. No. 3304, L. & M., dated 15th August 1935	Not sanctioned.
10 Cuddapah	2 0 0	1 0 0	Do.	G.O. No. 3400, L. & M., dated 1st August 1935	Not approved.
11 Vellore	2 0 0	1 0 0	Do.	G.O. No. 3553, L. & M., dated 31st August 1935	Do.
12 Chidambaram	2 0 0	1 0 0	1st April 1936	G.O. No. 4296, L. & M., dated 21st October 1935	Not sanctioned.
13 Masulipatam	2 0 0	1 0 0	....	G.O. No. 4342, L. & M., dated 23rd October 1935	Do.
14 Palghat	2 0 0	1 8 0	....	G.O. No. 4807, L. & M., dated 20th November 1935	Do.
15 Tellicherry	2 0 0	1 0 0	1st April 1936	G.O. No. 48-5, L. & M., dated 27th November 1935	Sanctioned.
16 Cuddalore	2 0 0	1 0 0	Do.	G.O. No. 247, L. & M., dated 20th January 1936	Not sanctioned.
17 Salem	2 0 0	1 0 0	Do.	G.O. No. 297, L. & M., dated 24th January 1936	Do.
18 Tuticorin	2 0 0	1 0 0	Do.	Under correspondence with the Commissioner	....
19 Cocanada	2 0 0	1 0 0	Do.	Under consideration	....
20 Berhampur	2 0 0	1 0 0	1st October 1935	G.O. No. 2190, L. & M., dated 10th June 1935	Not approved.
21 Kumbakonam	2 0 0	1 0 0	Do.	G.O. No. 1825, L. & M., dated 13th May 1935	Do.
22 Coimbatore	2 0 0	1 0 0	1st April 1936	G.O. No. 4886, L. & M., dated 27th November 1935	Not sanctioned.

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Appendix II.

[Vide answer to question No. 1049 asked by Rao Sahib V. Dharmalingam Pillai at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 26th March 1936, page 930 supra.]

Statement.

Name of community.	Number of members.	Population.	Percentage of each community to the total population.	Percentage of representation in relation to the strength of the court.
Brahmans	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
Non-Brahman Hindus.	6	1,601	70·9 per cent	85·7 per cent.
Muhammadans ..	1	323	14·3 ,,	14·3 ,,
Christians	Nil.	99	4·4 ,,	Nil.
Depressed classes ..	Nil.	234	10·4 ,,	Nil.
Total ..	7	2,257		

Appendix III.

[Vide item IV at page 935 supra.]

NOTE EXPLAINING THE FURTHER DEMAND FOR GRANT FOR 1936–37 TO BE MOVED AT THE MEETING OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ON THE 26TH MARCH 1936.

Additions and Alterations to the Senate House for accommodating the future Legislative Assembly until a new Parliament House is constructed.

Grant number. (1)	Head of account. (2)	Item of expenditure. (3)	Ultimate cost. (4)	Cost in 1936–37. (5)
			RS.	RS
XXIX. Civil Works—Works—Reserved and Transferred.	60. Civil Works—Not charged to Revenue—Transferred—Original Works—Buildings—General Administration.	Additions and alterations to the Senate House necessary for the temporary accommodation of the Madras Legislative Assembly under the new constitution inclusive of rent payable to to the University for the period of execution of the work.	1,26,000 (non-recurring).	1,26,000
			18,000 (recurring) rent.	7,500
				1,33,500

Explanatory Note.

Under the Government of India Act, 1935, the Madras Legislature will consist of two Chambers—the Legislative Council (Upper House) and the Legislative Assembly (Lower House). The Upper House will consist of not less than 54 and not more than 56 members and the Lower House will consist of 215 members. It is not possible to

accommodate both these chambers within the Secretariat building. It is proposed to accommodate the Legislative Council in the existing Council Chamber. The question of providing temporary accommodation for the Legislative Assembly, till a Parliament House to accommodate both the Chambers is constructed, has been examined. The only building which is considered suitable for this purpose is the Senate House. The Madras University is agreeable to lease the Senate House temporarily to the Government. Temporary additions and alterations will have to be made to the building in order to provide rooms for the Members of Government, Secretaries to Government, Party Rooms, rooms for Lady Members, rooms for the staff and officers of the Assembly, etc. Lavatories and other fittings will also have to be put up inside the building according to plans and designs approved by the University. These, with the exception of the fittings in one of the lavatories, will be taken over by the University on the termination of the lease at a price to be estimated and agreed on. Eight garages have to be built in the compound of the Senate House on the site and according to the designs approved by the University. These will also be taken over by the University on the termination of the lease at a price to be estimated and agreed on. Temporary garages and latrines will have to be put up in the compound of the Senate House. These structures will have to be removed by Government on the termination of the lease.

The Public Works Department have prepared the necessary plans and estimates. It has been calculated that the additions and alterations including the cost of providing necessary furniture, electric fittings, microphones, loud speakers, etc., will cost the Government approximately Rs. 1,26,000.

A rent of Rs. 1,500 per mensem should be paid to the University for the Senate House and its premises including the outhouses. The municipal tax for the existing buildings will be paid by the University, but the Government will have to pay the municipal water-tax from the commencement of the lease. This however will not amount to much. The building will probably be placed at the disposal of the Government for the purpose of making necessary alterations from October 1936. Rent will have to be paid for the Senate House from the date on which it is placed at the disposal of Government. A provision of five months' rent will be enough during 1936–37. The work should be commenced as early as practicable so that the building may be ready for the accommodation of the Legislative Assembly on 1st April 1937. It is therefore proposed to provide the required funds by moving a demand for a further grant for 1936–37 as shown in the abstract at the beginning of this note.

APPENDIX IV.

[Vide item X (1) at page 988 supra.]

(1) ADDITIONAL PROVISION REQUIRED UNDER GRANT I— LAND REVENUE—RESERVED.

Grant number.	Head of account.	Item of expenditure.	Amount of supplementary grant required in 1935-36.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
			RS.
I. Land Revenue—Reserved.	(1) 5. a. Land Revenue—Charges of Administration—A. Taluk Establishments—1. Pay of Establishments	Additional appropriation required under 5. Land Revenue.	3,800
	(2) 5. a. Land Revenue—Charges of Administration—A. Taluk Establishments—2. Other Charges		1,400
	(3) 5. b. Land Revenue—Survey and Settlement—B. Professional Survey Parties—3. Allowances		13,500
	(4) 5. b. Land Revenue—Survey and Settlement—D. Settlement Parties—Pay of Officers		3,800
	(5) 5. b. Land Revenue—Survey and Settlement—D. Settlement Parties—Pay of Establishment		8,000
	(6) 5. c. Land Revenue—Land Records—A. Maintenance—Estate Surveys—Pay of Establishment		7,300
	(7) 5. c. Land Revenue—Land Records—B. Municipal and Union Surveys—Pay of Establishment		4,300
	(8) 5. d. Land Revenue—Assignments and Compensations—Other Charges		47,000
			89,100

Explanatory Note.

The details for the additional demands referred to in column (4) of the summary are given below.

Items (1) and (2).—The excess expenditure which occurs under the above items is due to the employment of the special staffs shown in Annexure I. The Board of Revenue has reported that with reference to the actuals of the first nine months of 1935-36 an additional appropriation of Rs. 5,200 will be required.

Item (3).—The excess is due to the payment of—

(1) transfer travelling allowances of the officers and the staff transferred from Cannanore to Tanjore and from Tanjore to Nellore consequent on the transfer of the headquarters of No. II Survey Party and of its Detachment, which was only sanctioned in G.O. No. 617, Revenue, dated 9th March 1935;

(2) the fixed travelling allowance based on actual requirements consequent on fresh localities sanctioned for survey;

(3) the special compensatory allowance sanctioned for the survey staff working in the four hill villages of the Kannivadi Estate, Madura district. Provision could not be made for this item at the time at which the Budget Estimate was framed in the absence of specific orders of the Government as to the nature and extent of the work to be undertaken; and

(4) the passage allowance to the wife of an Assistant Director of Survey.

Items (4) *and* (5).—The excess expenditure which occurred under the above items is due to—

(1) the employment of a Special Assistant Settlement Officer for the revision of the wet ayacut in the Kistna Western Delta and to the retention of the Special Assistant Settlement Officer employed on work in Palkonda Agency to the end of the current year; and

(2) to the grant of leave salary to permanent men to a greater extent than anticipated and the employment of staff connected with the revision of wet ayacut in Kistna Western Delta.

Item (6).—The excess is required to meet the cost of the additional Revenue Officers and their establishments and the additional staff sanctioned for the Special Revenue Officer, Parlakimedi. The additional Revenue Officers and establishment were sanctioned in order to complete before 1st April 1936, the work connected with the preparation of a record of rights and settlement of rents in the areas to be transferred to the new Orissa Province.

Item (7).—The excess expenditure under this item is due to the employment of the special staff shown in Annexure II.

Item (8) *above*.—An excess expenditure of Rs. 47,000 is anticipated under 'Assignments and Compensations—Other Charges' and this is made up of anticipated excess under the following units of expenditure:—

(*a*) Payment to local boards of tree-tax collected by the Revenue Officers; and

(*b*) assignment to local bodies of fishery rents collected by the Revenue Department.

The expenditure under this unit is not booked separately against two detailed heads, but in one lump sum. It is reported that the increased allotment is required mainly owing to the change introduced in 1932 in the method of accounting for fishery rentals, under which fishery rents collected are credited under 'V. Land Revenue' and payment is made to the local boards from the provision made under '5. d. Land Revenue—Assignments and Compensations.' It has been reported that expenditure in excess of budget provision had to be incurred owing to the payment of arrear claims preferred by local boards. The increase under payment of tree-tax is reported to be due

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to the fact that in the South Arcot district a larger number of local boards than in the previous years have relinquished to the Government their right over tree patta trees. The tree-tax for such trees is collected by the Revenue Department and credited to the Land Revenue budget and a corresponding payment is made from the provision under '5. d. Land Revenue—Assignments and Compensations.'

It is proposed to move a demand for a supplementary grant for a sum of Rs. 89,100 under "Grant I—Land Revenue—Reserved."

ANNEXURE I.

The increase under "5. *a*. Land Revenue—Charges of Administration—A. Taluk Establishments—Pay of Establishments—Voted" is due to the employment of the following staffs:—

(1) One deputy surveyor for the survey of Odanthurai-Kottagiri road, Coimbatore district, for ten days (G.O. Ms. No. 2155, Revenue, dated 24th October 1934).

(2) Second additional draughtsman for scrutiny and plotting of subdivisions in the Chingleput district, for ten months (G.O. Ms. No. 2416, Revenue, dated 22nd November 1934).

(3) Special staff of one Deputy Tahsildar and two draughtsmen for scrutiny and plotting of subdivisions in the Chingleput district (G.O. Ms. No. 2665, Revenue, dated 27th December 1934).

(4) Third and fourth temporary draughtsmen for scrutiny and plotting of subdivisions in the Chingleput district, for ten months (G.O. Ms. No. 2665, Revenue, dated 27th December 1934).

(5) One draughtsman for scrutiny and plotting of subdivisions in the Trichinopoly district for eleven months (G.O. Ms. No. 839, Revenue, dated 1st April 1935).

(6) One draughtsman for repairing field measurement books in the Taluk Office, Sattur, Ramnad district, for five months (G.O. Ms. No. 906, Revenue, dated 10th April 1935).

(7) One deputy surveyor for survey of new roads in the Cuddapah district for three months (G.O. Ms. No. 915, Revenue, dated 11th April 1935).

(8) One deputy surveyor and two draughtsmen for supplemental survey in Vizagapatam district, for two months (G.O. Ms. No. 1276, Revenue, dated 4th June 1935).

(9) One deputy surveyor for demarcation work in the newly formed subdivisions in the Madras-Calicut trunk road in Malabar district for two months and six weeks (G.Os. Ms. No. 1022, Revenue, dated 1st May 1935, and Ms. No. 1910, Revenue, dated 15th August 1935).

(10) One deputy surveyor for seven months, one peon for seven months and one draughtsman for one month for survey of roads in the Bellary Municipality (G.Os. Ms. No. 1335, Revenue, dated 13th June 1935, and Ms. No. 1783, Revenue, dated 2nd August 1935).

(11) One deputy surveyor for survey of District Board roads in the Bellary district for three months (G.O. Ms. No. 1207, Revenue, dated 27th May 1935).

(12) One deputy surveyor for survey of District Board roads in the West Godavari district for two months (G.O. Ms. No. 1217, Revenue, dated 28th May 1935).

(13) One deputy surveyor for survey of District Board roads in the West Godavari district for three months (G.O. Ms. No. 1285, Revenue, dated 5th June 1935).

(14) One deputy surveyor for survey of Railway lands in the Trichinopoly district for three months (G.O. Ms. No. 1420, Revenue, dated 24th June 1935).

(15) One deputy surveyor for survey of a District Board road in the Vizagapatam district for fifteen days (G.O. Ms. No. 1620, Revenue, dated 18th July 1935).

(16) One deputy surveyor for survey of District Board roads for three months in the Madura district (G.O. Ms. No. 2540, Revenue, dated 18th December 1934).

(17) One deputy surveyor for survey of a District Board road in the Vizagapatam district for fifteen days (G.O. Ms. No. 1722, dated 30th July 1935).

(18) One deputy surveyor for survey of a District Board road in the Vizagapatam district for one month (G.O. Ms. No. 1723, Revenue, dated 30th July 1935).

(19) Two deputy surveyors and two peons for three weeks and one draughtsman for one month for survey of irrigable lands in the Bellary district (G.O. Ms. No. 1884, Revenue, dated 10th August 1935).

(20) One deputy surveyor for the survey of a District Board road for two months in the Nellore district (G.O. Ms. No. 1887, Revenue, dated 12th August 1935).

(21) Five deputy surveyors, one draughtsman and five peons for the rectification of survey errors in the Bellary district for four months (G.O. Ms. No. 345, Revenue, dated 8th February 1935).

(22) One deputy surveyor for the survey of a District Board road in the Bellary district for one month (G.O. Ms. No. 80, Revenue, dated 11th January 1935).

(23) One deputy surveyor for the survey of District Board roads in Vizagapatam district for ten days (G.O. Ms. No. 2087, Revenue, dated 4th September 1935).

(24) One draughtsman for scrutiny and mapping of subdivisions in South Arcot (G.O. No. 2387, Revenue, dated 9th October 1935).

(25) Two draughtsmen for scrutiny and mapping of subdivisions in Chingleput district (G.O. No. 2766, Revenue, dated 18th November 1935).

(26) One deputy surveyor for the survey of Pulaparthy channel in Vizagapatam (G.O. Ms. No. 2888, Revenue, dated 4th December 1935).

(27) One draughtsman for scrutiny and mapping of subdivisions in Nellore district (G.O. No. 2996, Revenue, dated 17th December 1935).

ANNEXURE II.

The increase under "5. c. Land Revenue—Land Records—B. Maintenance—Municipal and Union surveys" is due to the employment of the following staffs:—

(1) One town surveyor for the Mangalore Municipality (G.O. Ms. No. 2388, Revenue, dated 20th November 1934).

(2) One town surveyor for the Chittoor Municipality (G.O. Ms. No. 2558, Revenue, dated 10th December 1934).

(3) One panchayat surveyor for Nellore district (G.O. Ms. No. 38, Revenue, dated 5th January 1935).

(4) One town surveyor for Cuddalore Municipality (G.O. Ms. No. 391, Revenue, dated 12th February 1935).

(5) One town surveyor for Srivilliputtur Municipality (G.O. Ms. No. 619, Revenue, dated 11th March 1935).

(6) One panchayat surveyor for the Tanjore district (G.O. Ms. No. 934, Revenue, dated 12th April 1935).

(7) One temporary clerk for Tirupati Municipality (G.O. Ms. No. 1290, Revenue, dated 5th June 1935).

(8) Two temporary draughtsmen for Madras Taluk Office (G.O. Ms. No. 1454, Revenue, dated 27th June 1935).

(9) One panchayat surveyor for the Tanjore district (G.O. Ms. No. 1467, Revenue, dated 29th June 1935).

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(10) One town surveyor for Tuticorin Municipality (G.O. Ms. No. 1468, Revenue, dated 29th June 1935).

(11) One town surveyor for Chittoor Municipality (G.O. Ms. No. 1741, Revenue, dated 31st July 1935).

(12) One town surveyor for Tiruppur Municipality (G.O. Ms. No. 1964, Revenue, dated 21st August 1935).

(13) One town surveyor for Pollachi Municipality (G.O. No. 2524, Revenue, dated 25th October 1935).

(14) One town surveyor to Cuddalore Municipality (G.O. No. 2395, Revenue, dated 10th October 1935).

(15) One draughtsman for Periyakulam Municipality (G.O. No. 2396, Revenue, dated 10th October 1935).

(16) One town surveyor for Srivilliputtur Municipality (G.O. No. 2761, Revenue, dated 18th November 1935).

(17) One surveyor for Kuttalam Panchayat Board (G.O. No. 2964, Revenue, dated 13th December 1935).

APPENDIX V.

[*Vide item X (2) at page 989 supra.*]

(2) ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION ON ACCOUNT OF NON-JUDICIAL STAMPS SUPPLIED FROM CENTRAL STAMP STORES.

Grant number.	Head of account.	Item of expenditure.	Amount of supplementary grant required in 1935–36.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
			RS.
III. Stamps—Reserved.	7. b. Stamps—Non-Judicial—Cost of stamps supplied from Central Stamp Stores.	Cost of Non-Judicial stamps supplied from Central Stamp Stores.	23,200

Explanatory Note.

Indents for a larger quantity of stamps have been sent by Collectors for the quarter ending 30th June 1936 based on the nine months' actuals under cost of stamps during the current year. In some cases also expenditure which, it was expected would be included in the accounts of the last year was actually adjusted in this year's accounts. On a consideration of the nine months' actuals of the current year, it is estimated that an additional appropriation of Rs. 23,200 is necessary under "7-b. Stamps—Non-Judicial—Cost of Stamps supplied from Central Stamp Stores."

It is accordingly proposed to move a demand for a supplementary grant of Rs. 23,200 under "Grant III—Stamps—Reserved."

Appendix VI.

[Vide item X (3) at page 989 supra.]

(3) Additional appropriation necessitated by promotions of Sub-Registrars from the Second to the First Grade with retrospective effect and grant of leave allowances to a large number of officers.

Grant number.	Head of account.	Items of expenditure.	Amount of supplementary grant required in 1935-36.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
			RS.
V. Registration—Transferred.	9. b. Registration—District Charges—B—Pay of establishments—*Transferred—Voted.*	(a) Promotions of Sub-Registrars from the second to the first grade *with retrospective* effect. (b) Grant of leave allowance to a large number of officers on leave on medical certificate.	24,800

Explanatory Note.

In the case of promotions from the second (lower) to the first (upper) grade of Sub-Registrars made in 1934 and 1935 the question whether retrospective effect should be given to such promotions was under consideration for about a year. The Government decided in November 1935 that retrospective effect should be given to these promotions from dates on which the vacancies arose. The number of vacancies to be so filled was 56 and the earliest vacancy was from 13th April 1933.

2. It has also been brought to notice that increased expenditure has been incurred during the current year on account of a large number of officers being on leave on medical certificate.

3. The extra cost on account of the two factors referred to above is estimated at Rs. 24,800. As it is not possible to meet this expenditure by reappropriation from the existing provision in the current year's budget, it is proposed to move a demand for a supplementary grant for this sum.

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APPENDIX VII.

[Vide item X (4) at page 989 supra.]

(4) ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION REQUIRED UNDER 22. GENERAL ADMINISTRATION.

Grant number.	Head of account.	Item of expenditure.	Amount of supplementary grant required in 1935–36.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
			RS.
X. Secretariat and Headquarters Establishments, District Administration and Miscellaneous—Reserved.	1 22. k. General Adminis'ration—Civil Secretariat—Law and Education Department—Pay of officers—Voted	Additional appropriation required under 22. General Administration.	19,200
	2 22. n. A. Collectors and Magistrates—Contingencies and supplies and services ..		30,000
	3 22. o. Subdivisional establishments—Pay of officers—Voted		26,000
	4 22. o. Subdivisional establishments—Allowances—Voted		3,600
	5 22. o. Subdivisional establishments—Contingencies—Voted		8,700
	6 22. c Subdivisional establishments—Supplies and service —Voted		4,500
	7 22. p. A. Taluk establishments—Allowances—Voted		16,000
	8 22 p. A. Taluk establishments—Contingencies—Voted		43,300
	9 22. p. B. Ryotwari Village service—Pay of establishments—Voted		5,100
		Total ..	1,5[illegible],500

Explanatory Note.

Item (1)—*Civil Secretariats—Law and Education Department—Pay of officers—Rs.* 19,200.—The increase in expenditure under this head is due to the appointment of a temporary Joint Secretary in the Law Department to attend to the work which normally falls to the Law Secretary in order to enable the latter to attend to certain other work connected with the introduction of Reforms, and to the appointment of an additional Assistant Secretary in the same department for the revision of Provincial Statutes.

Item (2)—*Contingencies and supplies and services—Rs.* 30,000.—This sub-head of appropriation comprises the following seven detailed heads, the expenditure under all of which is of a fluctuating nature:—

(1) service postage and telegrams;
(2) tour charges;
(3) office expenses;
(4) purchase and repair of furniture and bicycles;
(5) supplies and services;
(6) law charges; and
(7) other charges.

On account of the strict adherence to the postal rules that not more than one communication should be sent by unregistered parcel, the charges under "Service postage and telegrams" have risen. There

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has been an increase of Rs. 20,300 under "Law charges" owing to a number of suits in batches having been decided against the Government and to an increase in the number of suits filed by the Government.

There has also been a slight increase under "Tour charges," "Office expenses" and "Other charges." The increase under the last item is mainly due to the provision of tent stands, and to the payment of house-rent and electrical charges for the Cathedral House, Madras, in which the correspondence section of the Collector's office, Chingleput, is now located. These items of expenditure could not be foreseen. Of the total excess expenditure of Rs. 34,500 anticipated under this sub-head a sum of Rs. 4,500 has been provided by reappropriation from the savings reported by the Collectors under other heads.

Item (3)—*Subdivisional establishments—Pay of officers—Voted—Rs.* 26,000.—One I.C.S. officer was placed on special duty in the office of the Board of Revenue and another was appointed as Under Secretary in the Development Department and their places in the district establishments were filled by Deputy Collectors. This resulted in savings under "Pay of officers—Non-voted" and an increase under "Pay of officers—Voted." In addition, the post of the Additional District Magistrate, Ganjam, one suits Deputy Collector for the Chicacole division of the Ganjam district and two special loans Deputy Collectors for the East Godavari and Chingleput districts, were sanctioned during the year. Some of the Deputy Collectors were in charge of I.C.S. divisions as usual. These factors have contributed towards the increase of expenditure under "Pay of officers—Voted."

Item (4)—*Allowances—Voted—Rs.* 3,600.—The expenditure under this sub-head represents mainly the travelling allowance granted to officers and establishments. This is a fluctuating item and there are no data to gauge the requirements. The latest actuals indicate an increase in expenditure under this head. Moreover, the appointment of the special loans officers has also contributed to the increased expenditure. The total increase under the head is Rs. 6,000 of which a sum of Rs. 2,400 has been provided by reappropriation and the net additional appropriation required is Rs. 3,600.

Item (5)—*Contingencies—Voted—Rs.* 8,700.—This sub-head comprises four detailed heads, viz., "Service postage and telegrams," "Tour charges," "Office expenses" and "Other contingencies." All these are fluctuating items of expenditure. On account of the strict adherence to the postal rules there has been an increase of Rs. 4,000 which could not be foreseen and provided for earlier. There has been an increase of expenditure under "Other contingencies" due mainly to the creation of the suits Deputy Collector's office, Chicacole, and the appointments of the Special Loans Officers. Certain articles of furniture for which no provision had been made in the budget, but which were urgently required, had to be purchased for Divisional offices. Further, in the Ramnad district the deposit money in an Estates Land Act case was

misappropriated, and the Government had to pay the amount to the rightful claimant. Deducting a sum of Rs. 600 available by reappropriation, the net additional appropriation required is Rs. 8,700.

Item (6)—*Supplies and services*—*Rs.* 4,500.—The additional appropriation applied for is required to meet the excess expenditure anticipated by Collectors under "Diet and road money to prosecutors and witnesses" comprised in this head. It is a fluctuating item of expenditure, and depends on the number of cases tried, the number and status of witnesses examined and the distance from which they are summoned. Some Collectors have reported that there has been an increase in the number of complicated cases and security cases, and that witnesses in some cases had to be summoned from the Central Provinces and Bombay.

Item (7)—*Taluk establishments*—*Allowances*—*Voted*—*Rs.* 16,100.—The travelling allowance paid to the members of the establishments of the various taluk offices in the Presidency is debited to this head of account. This is a fluctuating item of expenditure and it is difficult to estimate the requirements with precision. Besides, a number of revenue inspectors and peons were sanctioned temporarily in connexion with land acquisition work on behalf of district boards. These additional establishments are employed as and when requisitions are received from the district boards. It was not possible to provide for them in the Budget Estimate.

The travelling allowance and fixed travelling allowance paid to them is in the first instance debited to this sub-head, and recovered subsequently from the district boards concerned. The recoveries are, however, credited as receipts.

Item (8)—*Contingencies*—*Rs.* 43,300.—The Collectors expect an additional expenditure of Rs. 29,322 under "Service postage and telegram charges" which is mainly due to the strict adherence to the postal rules. There has also been increase in the expenditure under "Law charges" which is debited to "Other contingencies" comprised in the sub-head. The Collector of Vizagapatam found, during his inspection, that the condition of the furniture in many taluk and Magistrates' offices was unsatisfactory and he considers that they should be supplied with the necessary articles. Some Collectors have also asked for funds for the purchase and repair of furniture. Iron rails at a cost of nearly Rs. 400 had to be provided in the strong room of Madras Sub-treasury for the proper storage of opium cases and cases of banderole stamps for match-boxes. On account of these and other items of expenditure which could not be foreseen an additional appropriation is necessary under this head.

Item (9)—*Ryotwari village service*—*Pay of establishment*—*Voted*—*Rs.* 5,100.—Owing to the appointment of more temporary village establishments in the area commanded by the Cauvery-Mettur Project in the Tanjore district, the expenditure has increased under this sub-head. Based on the progress of the expenditure for the first nine

months in the year the Board anticipates an expenditure of Rs. 95,05,851 during the year. Deducting the sums available by reappropriation, the additional appropriation required under this head is Rs. 5,100.

The total additional appropriation required under the items mentioned above is Rs. 1,56,500. It is proposed to move a demand for a supplementary grant for this amount.

APPENDIX VIII.

[Vide item X (5) at page 990 supra.]

(5) ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION REQUIRED FOR DIETARY CHARGES, CLOTHING AND BEDDING AND PURCHASE OF RAW MATERIALS, ETC., FOR JAILS.

Grant number.	Head of account.	Items of expenditure.	Amount of supplementary grant required in 1935–36.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
			RS.
XIII. Jails—Reserved.	25. (a) Jails and Convict Settlements—C. Central—Jails.	Dietary charges ..	69,000
	Do do.	Clothing and bedding.	15,000
	D. District and Special Jails.	Dietary charges ..	16,000
	E. Sub-Jails	Do. ..	42,000
	F. Charges for Police custody.	....	2,100
	G. Certified schools ..	Dietary charges ..	3,000
	25. (c) Jails and Convict Settlements—B. Other Manufactures.	Purchase of raw materials.	90,000
		Total ..	2,37,100

Explanatory Note.

The Inspector-General of Prisons has asked for a supplementary appropriation of Rs. 2,35,000 under the heads 'dietary charges,' 'clothing and bedding' and 'purchase of raw materials' and the High Court for Rs. 2,800 under charges for police custody. The increased appropriation under the first two heads has been necessitated by the general increase in the prison population. The additional allotment of Rs. 90,000 required for raw materials is mainly due to the purchase of cotton in the Central Jail, Coimbatore, made to last till August 1936. The demand under charges for police custody is based on the actuals of last year and the progress of expenditure in the current year. The demands have been carefully scrutinized and it is proposed to move a demand for a supplementary grant for Rs. 2,37,100, the balance of Rs. 700 being met by reappropriation within the existing grant.

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APPENDIX IX.

[Vide item X (6) at page 990 supra.]

(6) (a) ADDITIONAL PROVISION FOR TEACHING GRANTS TO ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS UNDER PRIVATE MANAGEMENT.

Grant number.	Head of account.	Item of expenditure.	Amount of supplementary grant required in 1935-36.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
			RS.
XVII. Education —Transferred.	31. k. Education—Primary—Grants to Local Bodies for Primary Education—B. District Educational Councils—1. Teaching—Voted.	Additional provision for teaching grants to elementary schools under private management.	3,02,200

Explanatory Note.

Teaching grants to elementary schools under private management are disbursed by District Educational Councils constituted under the Madras Elementary Education Act, 1920, out of funds placed at their disposal by Government every year. According to the rules framed by Government under the Act, the grants to individual schools are first calculated on the following scale with reference to the number and qualifications of the teachers employed:—

—	Rate per year.	
	Untrained.	Trained.
	RS.	RS.
Each teacher of the Lower Elementary grade ..	60	108
Each teacher of the Higher Elementary grade ..	108	144
Each teacher of the Secondary grade	144	200

The grant on behalf of a school as thus calculated is termed the assessed grant. It is open to Inspecting Officers to propose a reduction not exceeding 25 per cent of the assessed grant for schools which fall below a certain standard of efficiency in one respect or another; on the other hand, they may propose an increase not exceeding 50 per cent of the assessed grant in the case of the more efficient schools, subject to the qualification that only 10 per cent of the schools in a district can be recommended for the maximum 50 per cent efficiency grant. The Inspecting Officer's recommendation is subject to the orders of the District Educational Council, provided that any increase or reduction ordered by the District Educational Council, shall not, save in exceptional cases for reasons to be recorded in writing, exceed 30 per cent of the grant recommended by the Inspecting Officer and provided also that the grant as finally fixed by the Council, shall not, in any case, exceed the assessed grant by more than 50 per cent.

2. Each year a lump sum for teaching grants is provided in the Civil Budget Estimate, which is distributed by Government to District Educational Councils in February or March each year, on the basis

of proposals sent in by the Director of Public Instruction. Till the year 1930–31, the Director used to base his distribution proposals simply on the requirements of the year as worked out by the Councils. As this method was responsible for large inequalities of treatment between district and district, the distribution since 1930–31 has been based on the assessed grant figures. From the year 1931–32 onwards, the total assessed grant for the Presidency has exceeded the Civil Budget Estimate provision and a *pro rata* reduction of the assessed grant has had to be made. The following statement shows how this *pro rata* reduction has progressively increased in the case of day-schools from 1 per cent in 1931–32 to about 11 per cent in 1934–35.

Year.	Budget provision which was available for distribution.	Assessed grants for day schools.	Percentage increase or decrease in the assessed grant.
	LAKHS. RS.	LAKHS. RS.	
1930–31	50·50	46·00	*Plus* 10 per cent for boys' schools and *plus* 35 per cent for girls' schools.
1931–32	48·54	49·05	*Minus* 1 per cent.
1932–33	49·77	52·26	„ 5 per cent approximately.
1933–34	51·05	54·21	„ 6 „ „
1934–35	51·17	57·26	„ 11 „ „

3. For some time past, representations have been received from District Educational Councils and Managers' Associations pointing out the hardships resulting from the continued failure to pay at least the assessed grant in full and there have been many questions in the Legislative Council on this same subject.

4. Out of the current year's appropriation of Rs. 51·82 lakhs for teaching grants to aided elementary schools, a sum of Rs. 0·59 lakh is proposed to be distributed as grants to night schools. The amount available for day schools will be only Rs. 51·23 lakhs, against an assessed grant of Rs. 61·03 lakhs. This will result in a reduction of 16 per cent on the assessed grant, an appreciably greater reduction than in any of the previous four years, if no additional funds are provided. In order to avoid any greater reduction in the assessed grant than was made last year, it is considered desirable to make an additional allotment of Rs. 3·21 lakhs of which Rs. 18,800 can be found partly by re-appropriation of funds and partly from the reserve with the Government. This will bring the total amount available for distribution to District Educational Councils up to 54·44 lakhs, as against a demand of 61·03 lakhs (assessed grant). The reduction will therefore be 10·8 per cent which is the same as last year although the assessed grant is appreciably higher this year (Rs. 61·03 lakhs as against Rs. 57·26 lakhs). It is therefore proposed to move a demand for a supplementary grant under "Grant XVII—Education—Transferred" for the balance of Rs. 3,02,200.

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(6) (*b*) PAYMENT OF SPECIAL TEACHING GRANT TO THE PACHAIYAPPA'S COLLEGE, MADRAS.

Grant number.	Head of account.	Item of expenditure.	Amount of supplementary grant required in 1935–36.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
			RS.
XVII. Education—Transferred.	31. c. Education—University—Grants to non-Government Arts Colleges—A. Teaching—Voted.	Special teaching grant to the Pachaiyappa's College, Madras.	100

Explanatory Note.

The trustees of the Pachaiyappa's College, Madras, have applied for a special grant towards the maintenance of the institution. It is represented that the college has been working at a deficit in recent years mainly due to the fact that the University Inspection Commission recommended that the strength of the college should be reduced from 1,100 to 800. The actual strength in 1934–35, was however, only 624 and as a result of the consequent fall in the income from fees, the college is reported to have worked in that year at a deficit of Rs. 33,400. In the present year (1935–36) a deficit of Rs. 20,300 is anticipated by the management. The income from the college endowments is also inelastic and the management has not been able to avoid a deficit in spite of imposing a cut in salaries of all members of the staff which began at 5 per cent and has been 10 per cent from January 1935. The Director of Public Instruction remarks that the income for 1935–36 has been underestimated by the management by nearly Rs. 9,000 and recommends that a special grant of Rs. 11,000 to meet the anticipated deficit may be given to the college in the current year.

2. The Government have sanctioned special grants in the past in similar circumstances to the Madras Christian College, Madras, the Bishop Heber College, Trichinopoly, and the Kallikota College, Berhampur. It is now proposed to give the Pachaiyappa's College a grant of Rs. 10,000. Of this sum, Rs. 5,000 is admissible under the provisions of the Grant-in-Aid Code. The balance of Rs. 5,000 need alone be treated as a special grant. This expenditure can be met by reappropriation of funds from within the "Grant XVII—Education—Transferred" for 1935–36. But as the Finance Committee were of the opinion that special grants outside the Grant-in-Aid Code should be treated as expenditure on a New Service, it is proposed to move a demand for a supplementary grant for a token sum of Rs. 100 under Grant XVII.

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Appendix X.

[Vide item X (7) at page 993 supra.]

(7) Additional allotment for the purchase of sera and vaccine for the Veterinary Department and to meet expenditure i connexion with goat virus inoculations and motor exhibitio van for propaganda work.

Grant number.	Head of account.	Items of expenditure.	Amount of supplementa grant required in 1935–36.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
			RS.
XXII. Civil Veterinary Services—Transferred.	34. b. Agriculture—Veterinary—Transferred—C. Touring Establishments—2. Allowances	(1) Travelling allowances for touring staff.	2,900
	3. Contingencies	(2) Tour charges, freight and miscellaneous expenses.	4,000
	4. Purchase of sera including freight.	(3) Purchase of sera and vaccines for the department.	19,100
		Total ..	26,000

Explanatory Note.

Item (1).—A provision of Rs. 38,600 was made in the Budget Estimates for 1935–36 for travelling allowance of the touring staff On account of the goat virus inoculations, newly introduced in certai circles to protect cattle against rinderpest, constant tours had to b made by the staff. To meet the enhanced expenditure in connexio with this touring the Director reports that Rs. 41,500 is required fo the whole year.

Item (2).—Towards the end of the last year a motor lorry of the Public Health Department was transferred to the Veterinary Department for propaganda work, but it was then too late to include provision in the Budget Estimates of the current year to meet the expense in connexion with the lorry. The amount required for its running expenses is Rs. 2,700. For the reasons given in item (1), the tou charges, etc., have also contributed to the increase in expenditure to the extent of Rs. 1,300.

Item (3).—A provision of Rs. 75,800 was made in the Budget Estimate for 1935–36, Rs. 74,500 exclusively for the purchase of sera and vaccines (other than anti-rinderpest serum and rinderpest virus) for the Veterinary Department, and Rs. 1,300 towards the cost of repairs to syringes and instruments and supply of medicine, etc., to the touring staff. The estimate was based on the estimate of expenditure for 1934–35. The increase or decrease of expenditure for the purchase of sera or vaccines depends upon the virulence of diseases in the course of a year and the consequential demands for the various kinds of sera and vaccines required to protect the animals. The

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general recrudescence of Hæmorrhagic Septicæmia and Blackquarter which occurred during 1932–33 continued during the last two years also, and this year these two diseases prevailed in a rather severe form in several districts. Consequently there has been a large demand for Muktesar products such as Blackquarter serum, Blackquarter vaccine and Hæmorrhagic Septicæmia serum. The Director reports that on the basis of latest actuals and probables during the remaining part of the year, taking into account the stock on hand, Rs. 94,900 is required for the whole year for the purchase of sera and the cost of repairs to syringes, etc. A net additional allotment of Rs. 19,100 is therefore required on this account. The total additional allotment required is thus Rs. 26,000.

It is proposed to move a demand for a supplementary grant for a sum of Rs. 26,000 under "Grant XXII—Civil Veterinary Services—Transferred."

APPENDIX XI.

[Vide item X (8) at page 993 supra.]

(8) ADDITIONAL ALLOTMENT FOR THE PURCHASE AND TRANSPORT OF SALT TO THE FISH-CURING YARDS ON THE WEST COAST.

Grant number.	Head of account.	Item of expenditure.	Amount of supplementary grant required in 1935–36.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
			RS.
XXVI.—Fisheries—Transferred.	35. f. Industries—Fisheries—K. Fish-curring yards—3. Supplies and Services.	Purchase and transport of salt to the fish-curing yards on the West Coast.	22,000

Explanatory Note.

In January 1935, the Director of Fisheries was informed that the budget estimates for the purchase and transport of salt for fish-curing yards should be based on the average expenditure of the preceding three years and that if the appropriation sanctioned was found inadequate in the course of the year, application should be made for a supplementary grant. The Budget Estimate for 1935–36 was accordingly fixed at Rs. 95,200 as detailed below for the purpose:—

	RS.
(1) Apparatus and materials	10,400
(2) Export and import of salt	41,100
(3) Purchase of salt for fish-curing purposes	22,900
(4) Freight charges for conveyance of salt.	20,800
Total ...	95,200

Owing to favourable seasonal conditions, the salt required on the West Coast for the current season is estimated at 232,000 maunds; 93,300

maunds were transported till the beginning of February and it may be possible to transport 103,200 maunds in February and March and the balance early in April. Sea transport ceases by the end of March with the early signs of the south-west monsoon and all transport subsequent to March will be by rail. Rail transport is costly and it is therefore proposed to purchase the additional quantity of salt required and try to transport it by the end of March or very early in April. Additional allotment of Rs. 35,500 for the purpose is required. The Director of Fisheries can find Rs. 13,500 by reappropriation from his grant. It is therefore proposed to move a demand for a supplementary grant for the balance of Rs. 22,000.

APPENDIX XII.

[Vide item X (9) at page 994 supra.]

(9) ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR PENSIONS.

Grant number.	Head of account.	Item of expenditure.	Amount of supplementary grant required in 1935-36.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
			RS.
XXXIII—Pensions—Reserved.	(1) 45. a. Superannuation allowances and Pensions—Reserved—Superannuation and Retired allowances—A. Payments to Madras Government pensioners.	Additional appropriation for pensions.	2,56,000
	(2) 45. A. Commuted value of pensions financed from Ordinary Revenues—		
	(i) a. Payments to pensioners ..	Additional appropriation to meet payments to pensioners.	10,000
	(ii) b. Deductions—A. Commuted value of pensions recovered from other Governments.	Additional appropriation to meet short recoveries.	69,300
			3,35,300

Explanatory Note.

Item (1) *above*.—The sanctioned appropriation under "45. a. Superannuation allowances and pensions—Reserved—Superannuation and retired allowances—A. Payments to Madras Government pensioners—Voted" is Rs. 59,71,000. It is expected that the total expenditure for the year will exceed this amount by Rs. 2,56,000. The excess expenditure is due to the following causes:—

(1) A large number of pensions in Madras City are usually disbursed on the last day of the month concerned instead of on the following day. As the 31st March 1935 fell on a Sunday, the pensions that should have been paid that day and debited to the accounts of that year were disbursed only in April and debited to the accounts of the current year.

(2) Commutations of pensions last year were low; and

(3) the growth in pensions has been higher than anticipated.

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Item (2) (i).—The appropriation provided for in the Budget Estimate for 1935–36 for payment of commuted value of pensions to pensioners is Rs. 8·50 lakhs. With reference to the progress of actuals in the current year and the sanctions already accorded by Government, a total expenditure of Rs. 8·60 lakhs is anticipated for the year. Thus an additional allotment of Rs. 10,000 is required under this head.

Item (2) (ii) *above—Deductions—Commuted value of pensions recovered from other Governments.*—This head takes credit for the recovery from the Government of India of the commuted value (1) of that Government's share of the pensions of the officers of the Madras Government who had served under both Governments, and (2) of pensions wholly debitable to that Government but which are drawn in tbe treasuries of this Province. The appropriation for 1935–36 was fixed at Rs. 2,70,000 with reference to the average of the actuals of past years from 1925–26. The Accountant-General has since reported that the probable recoveries under this head will amount only to Rs. 2,00,000 roundly in the current year. Thus an additional appropriation of Rs. 70,000 is required to cover the short recovery. A sum of Rs. 700 will be reappropriated to this head from the savings anticipated under other heads, and a net excess amount of Rs. 69,300 is necessary.

3. It is accordingly proposed to move a demand for a supplementary grant for a sum of Rs. 3,35,300 under "Grant XXXIII—Pensions—Reserved."

APPENDIX XIII.

[Vide item X (10) at page 994 supra.]

(10) ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS UNDER "47. MISCELLANEOUS—RESERVED AND TRANSFERRED."

Grant number.	Head of account.	Item of expenditure.	Amount of supplementary grant required in 1935–36.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
			RS.
XXXV. Miscellaneous—Reserved and Transferred.	47. Miscellaneous—Reserved— (1) d. Irrecoverable temporary loans and advances written off—A. Advances to cultivators and revenue advances.	Additional appropriations under 47. Miscellaneous.	3,700
	(2) j. Charges in connexion with the celebration of His Majesty's Silver Jubilee.		47,700
		Total ..	51,400

Explanatory Note.

Item (1)—*Irrecoverable temporary loans and advances written off—Advances to cultivators and revenue advances.*—Loans granted to cultivators for improvement of their lands, pumping installations and

other objects are sometimes not recovered in full even after sale of the security taken for the loans. When an irrecoverable balance of loan is written off, credit has to be given to the loan head by debiting the amount written off to the head 47. Miscellaneous. The budget estimate for the current year under this item was Rs. 9,200, but the expenditure now anticipated is Rs. 18,400, an excess of Rs. 9,200. Against this excess it has been found possible to find a sum of Rs. 5,500 from anticipated savings under other sub-heads within Grant XXXV. A supplementary demand has to be moved for the balance of Rs. 3,700.

Item (2)—Charges in connexion with the celebration of His Majesty's Silver Jubilee.—This represents the expenditure actually incurred for the illuminations of Government buildings during the Silver Jubilee celebrations of His late Majesty George V in May last. In the absence of information as to the amount of expenditure involved, no provision could be made for the purpose in the budget estimate for 1935–36. The actual expenditure incurred was Rs. 47,700.

2. The total amount required under the two heads mentioned is Rs. 51,400. It is proposed to move a demand for a supplementary grant for this amount.

APPENDIX XIV.

[Vide item X (11) at page 994 supra.]

(11) ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION REQUIRED FOR EXPENDITURE IN ENGLAND OTHER THAN ON STORES (VOTED)—RESERVED AND TRANSFERRED.

Grant number. (1)	Head of account. (2)	Item of expenditure. (3)	Amount of supplementary grant required in 1935–36. (4)
			RS.
XXXVII. Expenditure in England other than on stores—Reserved and Transferred.	Expenditure in England other than on stores —Reserved and Tranferred (Voted).	Additional appropriation under expenditure in England other than on stores.	88,800
	Deduct—Gain by Exchange (Voted).	....	— 2,200
		Total ..	86,600

Explanatory Note.

Expenditure in England other than on Stores—Voted which is subject to the vote of the Legislative Council and included in Grant XXXVII —Expenditure in England other than on Stores falls mainly under the following classes:—

(1) Leave salaries and deputation pay,
(2) Sterling overseas pay,
(3) Government scholars—Allowances, passages, etc.,
(4) Expenses connected with recruitment in England,
(5) Law charges in connexion with Privy Council appeals,
(6) Sundry items, and
(7) Pensions.

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2. *Expenditure in England.*—The appropriation voted by the Legislative Council under Grant XXXVII for the current year for expenditure controlled by the High Commissioner for India and the Accountant-General, India Office, is Rs. 3,26,800. Since the budget estimates for the current year were framed, modifications have taken place in the leave programmes of officers and in other classes of expenditure. According to the latest anticipations of expenditure for the current year, an additional appropriation of Rs. 88,800 over the total voted grant is required to meet the expenditure in England other than on stores controlled by the High Commissioner and the Accountant-General, India Office.

Gain by Exchange —Following the usual procedure, no provision was made in the Budget estimates for the current year for gain by exchange, as at the time of framing the budget, fluctuations in the rates of exchange could not be anticipated. With reference to the average of the actual exchange rates prevailing during the first eight months of the current year, the Government of India intimated that provision should be made in the Revised estimates of the current year for gain by exchange at 1 anna 1 pie per £. Credit has accordingly been taken in the Revised estimate of the current year for a total gain of Rs. 2,200 (voted) under Grant XXXVII.

The details are given in the Annexure.

3. The net additional voted appropriation required under Grant XXXVII—Expenditure in England other than on Stores—Reserved and Transferred is Rs. 86,600. It is proposed to move a demand for a supplementary grant for this amount.

ANNEXURE.

Statement showing the details of the supplementary grant required for expenditure in England other than on stores—Voted.

Head of account.	Items of expenditure. Expenditure in England.			Gain by exchange.
(1)	(2)			(3)
		RS.		RS.
High Commissioner for India—				
5 Land Revenue—Reserved ..	Leave salaries ..	9,600	(a)	— 100
6 Excise—Transferred	Do. ..	1,400		— 100
8 Forest—Reserved	Do. ..	6,200		— 100
22 General Administration—Reserved	Do. ..	10,800		— 500
24 Administration of Justice—Reserved	Do. ..	2,800		— 100
30 Scientific Departments—Reserved	Do. ..	18,400		— 100
31 Education—Transferred	Do. ..	2,400		— 100
31 Education—Reserved	Do. ..	3,000		— 100
32 Medical—Transferred				— 100
33 *Public Health—Transferred* ..	Do. ..	1,800	(a)	..
34 Agriculture—Agriculture—Transferred	Do. ..	400		..
35 Industries—Transferred				— 100
46 Stationery and Printing—Reserved				— 100

(a) Due mainly to changes in leave programmes of officers.

Statement showing the details of the supplementary grant required for expenditure in England other than on stores—Voted—*cont.*

Head of account. (1)	Item of expenditure.	Expenditure in England. (2)	Gain by exchange. (3)
		RS.	RS.
High Commissioner for India—*cont.*			
55 Construction of Irrigation, etc., Works — Reserved — Cauvery-Mettur Project	Leave salaries ..	2,400 (*a*)	— 100
31 Education—Transferred	Sterling overseas pay.	800 (*a*)	..
8 Forest—Reserved	Do.	5,400 (*a*)	..
45 Superannuation allowances and pensions—Reserved	..	10,400 (*b*)	— 600
58 Capital outlay on Hydro-Electric Schemes	Sundry items ..	8,200 (*c*)	— 100
	Total (A) ..	84,000	— 2,200
Accountant-General, India Office—			
24 Administration of Justice—Reserved	Law charges ..	1,400 (*d*)	
25 Jails—Reserved	Leave salaries of Military officers in Civil employ.	3,400 (*a*)	
	Total (B) ..	4,800	
	Grand total (A) *plus* (B) ..	88,800	— 2,200
	Net total ..	86,600	

APPENDIX XV.

[*Vide item X (12) at page 994 supra.*]

(13) ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION FOR REFUNDS OF EXCISE REVENUE.

Grant number. (1)	Head of account. (2)	Item of expenditure. (3)	Amount of supplementary grant required in 1935-36. (4)
			RS.
XXXVIII. Refunds of Revenue—Reserved and Transferred.	VI. Excise—Refunds Transferred (Ordinary tracts).	Additional appropriation under 'Refunds of Revenue.'	23,000

Explanatory Note.

The budget appropriation for 1935-36 under VI. Excise—Refunds—Transferred (Ordinary Tracts) is Rs. 53,300. The latest estimate for the year is Rs. 92,000, an increase of Rs. 38,700 over the budget appropriation. This increase is due mainly to the fact that the duty on

(*a*) Due mainly to changes in leave programmes of officers.
(*b*) Budget provision found inadequate with reference to the progress of actuals in the current year.
(*c*) Represents payment to a Firm of Consulting Engineers in London for technical advice given by them in respect of the Mettur Hydro-Electric Scheme.
(*d*) Cost of appeals to the Privy Council.

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arrack was reduced by 25 per cent from the 1st April 1935. Consequently, the difference between the old rates of duty already collected and the new rates in respect of the stocks of arrack that remained in depots on that date had to be refunded. It was not possible to provide for this in the Budget for 1935–36 as it had been framed before the duty was reduced.

2. A sum of Rs. 15,700 of the increase has been found by reappropriation of savings under other sub-heads included in Grant XXXVIII. For the balance of Rs. 23,000 it is proposed to move a demand for a supplementary grant.

APPENDIX XVI.

[Vide item XI at page 995 supra.]

To

THE HONOURABLE MEMBERS OF THE
MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

The Select Committee appointed to report on the amendments to Standing Orders Nos. 28, 30 and 55 moved by Rai Bahadur Sir K. Venkata Reddi Nayudu, *Kt.*, at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 31st January 1936 has the honour to make the following report.

2. The Committee met on the 26th February 1936.

3. The proposed amendments are as follows:—

Standing Order No. 28.

(1) *For* clause (1) of Standing Order No. 28, *substitute* the following clause, namely:—

"(1) A matter requiring the decision of the Council is brought forward by means of a question put by the President on a motion proposed by one member and seconded by another; and a motion which is not seconded shall not be discussed nor shall any question be put on it:

Provided that a motion need not be seconded in the following cases, namely:—

(*a*) if the motion is one which is moved by a member of the Government, or

(*b*) if the motion is one for the reduction of any grant, whether a budget grant or a further or a supplementary grant, or for the omission or reduction of any item in any such grant."

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Standing Order No. 30.

(2) *For* clause (1) of Standing Order No. 30, *substitute* the following clause, namely:—

"(1) After the mover and seconder have spoken, other members may speak to the motion in the order in which they are called by the President:

Provided that if the motion is one which need not be seconded or if the seconder has reserved his speech, members other than the mover may speak to the motion in the order in which they are called by the President, after the mover has spoken or after the motion has been seconded, as the case may be."

Standing Order No. 55.

(3) In Standing Order No. 55, *omit* clause (4).

4. The Committee thinks that these amendments are desirable to regularize the procedure in the Council regarding seconding of motions and recommends that they may be accepted.

B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI,
Chairman.

27th February 1936.

THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF THE GOVERNOR OF MADRAS.

Friday, the 27th March 1936.

The House met at eleven of the clock, Mr. President (the Hon. Mr. B. Ramachandra Reddi) in the Chair.

PRESENT:

Reddi Nayudu, *Kt.*, The Hon. Rai Bahadur Sir K. V.
Pannirselvam, The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T.
Souter, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., I.C.S., The Hon. Sir Charles.
Bracken, C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S., The Hon. Mr. G. T. H.
Raja of Bobbili, K.C.I.E., The Hon. the.
Rajan, The Hon. Mr. P. T.
Kumaraswami Reddiyar, The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S.
Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur.
Ahmed Meeran Sahib Bahadur, A. M.
Alamelumangathayaramma, Mrs. K.
Annamalai Chettiyar, Mr. S. A. A.
Appadurai Pillai, Diwan Bahadur A.
Arasu, Mr. V. T.
Basheer Ahmed Sayeed Sahib Bahadur.
Basu Dev, Mr. C.
Beyabani Sahib Bahadur, S. M. K.
Devadasan, Mr. M.
Dharmalingam Pillai, Rao Sahib V.
Duraiswami Reddiyar, Mr. K. M.
Ellappa Chettiyar, Diwan Bahadur S.
Foulkes, Mr. G. F. F.
Gopalaswami Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur M.
Halasyam Ayyar, Mr. N.
Hood, C.I.E., I.C.S., Mr. H. M.
Indrayya, Mr. C.
Jagannatham, Mr. H. M.
Jayaram Nayudu, Rao Sahib C.
Jones, I.C.S., Mr. C. E.
Kolanda Reddi, Rai Sahib C.
Koti Reddi, Mr. K.
Krishnamurti, Rao Bahadur D.
Madanagopal Nayudu, Mr. R.
Maharaja of Parlakimedi, The.
Mahboob Ali Baig Sahib Bahadur.
Manikkavelu Nayakar, Mr. M. A.
Moidoo Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur T. M.
Moses, Mr. P. C.
Muhammad Meera Ravuttar Bahadur, K. P. V. S.
Muniswami Pillai, Rao Sahib V. I.
Nachiyappa Gounder, Mr. K. A.
Nanjappa Bahadur, Rao Bahadur Subadar-Major S. A.
Narasa Reddi, Mr. T.
Narasimhaswami, Rao Sahib D. V.
Narayanan Nambiyar, Mr. V. P.
Natesa Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur C.
Obi Reddi, Mr. C.
Palat, Mr. R. M.
Patnaik Mahasayo, Sriman M. G.
Patro, K.C.I.E., Rao Bahadur Sir A. P.
Pattagar of Palayakottai, The.
Pocker Sahib Bahadur, B.
Premayya, Mr. G. R.
Rajagopala Pillai, Mr. P. V.
Raja of Khallikote, The.
Ramachandra Padayachi, Mr. P. K.
Ramakrishna Reddi, Mr. A.
Ramalingam Chettiyar, Diwan Bahadur T. A.
Ramamurti, Rao Sahib Pandit Ganala.
Raman Menon, Mr. K. P.
Ramaswami Ayyar, Mr. T. S.
Ramaswami Mudaliyar, Mr. V. M.
Rameswara Rao, Mr. G.
Ranganatha Mudaliyar, A.
Ranganatham, Mr. N.
Rangaswami Reddi, Mr. M. B.
Ratnavelu Thevar, Mr. P.
Reid, Mr. D. M.
Rukmani Lakshmipathi, Mrs. A.
Russell, I.C.S., Mr. T. B.
Sahajanandam, Swami A. S.
Schamnad Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur Mahmud.
Scott Brown, I.C.S., Mr. W.
Shetty, Mr. A. B.
Simhachalam Pantulu, Mr. G.
Siva Raj, Rao Sahib N.
Smith, Mr. J. M.
Srinivasa Ayyangar, Mr. T. C.
Srinivasan, Diwan Bahadur R.
Sriramulu, Mr. G.
Subbarayan, Dr. P.
Subrahmanya Bhatt, Mr. U. C.
Sundara Rao Nayudu, Mr. T.
Syed Tajudin Sahib Bahadur, Khan Sahib.
Thangal, Mr. P. M.
Uzielli, C.I.E., I.C.S., Mr. H. R.
Vasudeva Pillai, Mr. V. G.
Venkatarama Ayyar, Mr. K. R.
Venugopal Nayudu, Rao Bahadur R. K.
Wright, Sir William.
Yahya Ali Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur.
Yakub Hasan Sahib Bahadur.
Zamindar of Bodinayakkanur, The.
Zamindar of Kirlampudi, The.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS

Administration of Justice

Alleged circular by District Magistrates to Subordinate Magistrates regarding the conduct of enquiry into cases.

* 1054 *Q.*—Mr. M. DEVADASAN: Will the Hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the District Magistrates have circularized the Subordinate Magistrates that in all cases including preliminary registered cases pending before them the witnesses should be examined from day to day without a break; and

(*b*) if so, whether the District Magistrates were authorized by the Government to do so?

A.—(*a*) The Government have no information.

(*b*) Does not arise.

Mr. M. DEVADASAN:—" With reference to the answer given to clause (*a*) that ' The Government have no information,' may I request the Hon. the Law Member to call for the information to see whether such a procedure is being adopted in the subordinate magistrates' courts? "

The Hon. Sir K. V. REDDI NAYUDU:—" I am not able to understand the difficulty of the hon. Member. Will the hon. Member be pleased to let us know what it is that he wants us to do even supposing there is an order of the District Magistrate of that kind? "

Mr. M. DEVADASAN:—" May I ask the Hon. the Law Member whether it is in consonance with the provisions contained in the Criminal Procedure Code, if such an order is passed? "

The Hon. Sir K. V. REDDI NAYUDU:—" I suppose the Criminal Procedure Code also contemplates the same thing, viz., that witnesses should be examined from day to day in all cases including preliminary registered cases."

Mr. M. DEVADASAN:—" That refers only to trial of sessions cases, if I am not incorrect."

Non-negotiability of cheques drawn by judicial officers in favour of pleaders or litigants.

* 1055 *Q.*—Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO: Will the Hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the cheques issued by judicial officers in favour of pleaders or litigants are not negotiable;

(*b*) whether the Accountant-General has issued directions to the treasury officers not to honour cheques issued in the name of pleaders, when endorsed in the name of their authorized clerks; and

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(c) whether this hardship has been brought to the notice of the Government and the High Court and whether any steps are contemplated to remedy this hardship?

A.—(*a*) *to* (*c*) The Government have no information but have called for it.

Mr. G. Rameswara Rao:—" The Hon. Member said in his budget speech that he would look into this matter and do the needful. May I ask the Hon. the Law Member what action has been taken till now? "

The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu:—" The hon. Member will find from the answer to clause (*b*) that Government have no information but have called for it. If any action is necessary after the receipt of the information, it will be attended to."

Pay of unpassed clerks in the Judicial Department.

* 1056 *Q.*—Mr. G. Rameswara Rao: Will the Hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any action has been, or is proposed to be taken regarding unpassed candidates in the Judicial service who were made permanent long ago but who are not allowed to draw increments;

(*b*) whether the report called for in this connexion from the District Judges has been received; and

(*c*) if so, whether the Government have come to any decision on the matter?

A.—(*a*) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the proviso to rule 10 (*a*) of the Madras Ministerial Service Rules as amended by G.O. No. 1758, Public (Services), dated the 25th October 1935, published on page 1460 of Part I of the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated the 5th November 1935. No action has been taken or is proposed to be taken in respect of unpassed clerks in the Judicial service who were made permanent long ago but who are not allowed to draw increments in view of the proviso referred to above.

(*b*) The hon. Member presumably refers to the information asked for in question No. 436 answered at the meeting of the Legislative Council on the 5th November 1935. No information has been called for by Government from District Judges. The High Court stated in December last that there were in the Judicial Department 184 unpassed clerks (including 10 typists) who had been allowed to draw increments up to specified limits and that there were 132 unpassed clerks who were made permanent long ago but were not allowed to draw increments.

(*c*) Does not arise, in view of the answer to clause (*a*).

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MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB Bahadur:—"May I know whether in other departments the unpassed clerks are allowed to draw their increments?"

The Hon. Sir K. V. REDDI NAYUDU:—"I should like to have notice of the question."

Control of Vehicles

Prosecution of motor drivers in the Tinnevelly district for non-possession of driving licences.

*1057 *Q.*—Mr. M. DEVADASAN: Will the Hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many motor drivers have been prosecuted for the non-possession of driving licences since January 1935 to this date in the district of Tinnevelly; and

(*b*) in how many of the cases, the motor drivers had sent their licences for renewal to the authorities concerned?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The Government have no information, but have called for it.

Mr. M. DEVADASAN:—"May I ask the Hon. the Home Member whether he will be pleased to place the information on the table of this House when it is received?"

The Hon. Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM:—"I have no objection, Sir."

Public Service

Application of the communal Government Order in the matter of promotion of clerks in the Revenue Department.

*1058 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the communal Government Order is not followed for the promotion of lower division clerks to the upper division (i.e., 60—4—80 old scale) in the Revenue Department, when it is followed in the matter of appointment of lower division clerks below, and the selection of sub-magistrates above this middle grade of upper division clerks; and

(*b*) if so, what are the principles underlying this procedure?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The communal rule is applied only to first appointment to a service and not to promotions within it. Clerks in the Revenue Department are all included in the Madras Ministerial Service while Sub-Magistrates are included in the Revenue Subordinate Service.

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Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—"May I ask the Hon. the Revenue Member whether promotions to sub-magistrates' posts are mostly made from upper division clerks?"

The Hon. Sir CHARLES SOUTER:—"Yes, Sir. I should think so as a rule."

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—"When that is so, will the hon. Member be pleased to state whether it is not difficult to find candidates for appointment as sub-magistrates according to communal order, if such promotion to upper division clerks' posts is not also made according to the same order?"

The Hon. Sir CHARLES SOUTER:—"I think the hon. Member rather misapprehends the situation. The fact is that clerks, both for upper division and lower division, are recruited in accordance with the communal Government Order, sub-magistrates, tahsildars and deputy tahsildars form another service and they are recruited for that service in accordance with the communal Government Order. They are two different services and the communal Government Order applies to each."

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—"Since recruitment of sub-magistrates is made from upper division clerks, may I ask whether the Government do not find it difficult to get suitable candidates of particular communities in that rank for such recruitment?"

The Hon. Sir CHARLES SOUTER:—"No, Sir. Promotions from the lower division to upper division under the present rules follow seniority. Therefore the upper division clerks will be according to the communal proportion."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"May I know from the Hon. Member whether recruitment or transfer from ministerial to revenue subordinate service is made according to the rule of communal proportion?"

The Hon. Sir CHARLES SOUTER:—"Yes, to a new service the communal rule applies."

Secretariat

Transfers from the Secretariat establishment to the mufassal offices.

*1059 *Q.*—Mr. M. DEVADASAN: Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there were transfers to and from the Secretariats in the year 1935 to other departments of Government service, i.e., Collectorates in the mufassal, Public Works Department, Excise and other branches of administration; and

(*b*) if so, how many?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) Yes. A statement* is laid on the table.

* Printed as Appendix I on page 1092 infra.

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Reforms

Publication of the order in Council regarding the delimitation of constituencies.

* 1060 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder: Will the Hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the order in Council with regard to the delimitation of constituencies has been received; and

(*b*) if so, whether a copy of it will be placed on the table?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The draft order presented to Parliament having already been released for publication, the Government do not consider it necessary to place it on the table.

Local Self-Government

Programme of work of the Special Officer appointed to investigate into the question of the bifurcation of district boards.

* 1061 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the special officer appointed for investigating into the matter of bifurcation of district boards has joined duty and entered upon the execution of his duties;

(*b*) what are the duties assigned and instructions issued to him;

(*c*) what is the programme chalked out by him for proceeding with the work;

(*d*) whether the actual bifurcation of all the district boards which are fit for bifurcation is to be taken up for bifurcation simultaneously or one after another;

(*e*) what are the minimum requirements fixed for bifurcating a district board; and

(*f*) which are the districts which are to be taken up by the special officer for investigation to begin with, and what is their serial order?

A.—(*a*) Yes: he has joined duty on 23rd March 1936.

(*b*) His duties are primarily connected with bifurcation of district boards and, if they permit, he will also be entrusted with the work connected with the comprehensive amendments to Madras Local Boards and Madras District Municipalities Acts. No instructions have yet been issued to him.

(*c*) No programme has yet been chalked out by him.

(*d*) The Government have not considered the question.

(*e*) No such minimum requirements have been prescribed.

(*f*) The question is under consideration.

Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder:—" Sir, it is said in clause (*b*): 'No instructions have yet been issued to him.' May I ask whether the Hon. Minister proposes to issue instructions and if so, what the nature of those instructions is? "

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—" Instructions are to be issued, but I cannot say what they will be."

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Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR:—" May I know whether Government have given up the idea of bifurcation of the district board of Chingleput for reasons of finance? "

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—" I do not know how that question arises now."

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—" With reference to the answer given to clause (b), will the Hon. Minister be pleased to say whether the bifurcation of all the district boards will be taken up one after another or it will be taken up simultaneously after the financial position of all has been examined? "

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—" As soon as the investigation is completed in each case the Government will take a decision. There is no idea of taking action simultaneously with regard to all district boards."

Financial position of district boards under general funds during the year 1934–35.

* 1062 *Q.*—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) which district boards have closed their general funds with normal working balances in 1934–35;

(b) which boards have been left with deficit balances; and

(c) which boards have outstanding liabilities besides deficit balances?

A.—(a) & (b) A statement [a] is appended.

(c) Coimbatore and West Godavari district boards.

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—" In view of deficit balances in several district boards, may I know whether Government propose to help such district boards in any way? "

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—" In so many ways the Government are helping the district boards, and the deficit balances may be due to so many causes."

Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR:—" May I ask whether the Government have decided the question of bifurcating the Chingleput District Board? "

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—" May I know whether the Government has given up the idea of reimposition of tolls in order to augment the revenues of local boards? "

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—" The question has been answered more than once on the floor of this House. It has been stated that Government have no intention of bringing forward any legislation of this kind."

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—" From the statement appended I find that many district boards have very large balances under general funds over and above what they are obliged to maintain by the statute. May

[a] Printed as Appendix II on page 1093 infra.

I know whether the Hon. Minister does not consider that the maintenance of such large balances means the restriction of the normal activities of the district boards? "

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—" It might not have been found possible to spend all the monies on capital works. In such a case also balances would have accrued."

Statement regarding the financial position of district boards at the end of the year 1935–36.

* 1063 *Q.*—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state whether a statement regarding the present financial position of each of the district boards, showing which of them expect to close their general funds with the minimum statutory balances at the end of the current year 1935–36 and which of them will be left with deficit balances, will be placed on the Table of the House?

A.—A statement [a] is laid on the table.

District Boards working at a deficit.

* 1064 *Q.*—Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of district boards which have submitted a deficit budget or are working at a deficit and what the deficit is of each district board; and

(*b*) whether any investigation has been held by the Government regarding the financial position of the district board with a view to bifurcation; if so, what the result is of the enquiry and which district boards are to be bifurcated and on what principles is the bifurcation undertaken?

A.—(*a*) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to question No. 1063.

(*b*) The investigation has not yet commenced.

Progress of the scheme for the bifurcation of the District Boards of West Godavari, Nellore, Coimbatore, the Nilgiris and Malabar.

* 1065 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) at what stage the proposals for the bifurcation of the District Boards of West Godavari, Nellore, Coimbatore, the Nilgiris and Malabar are and when they are likely to be brought into effect;

(*b*) what the annual normal income and expenditure of each of these district boards are under all the heads; and

(*c*) what the annual normal income and expenditure of Salem District Board are under all the heads?

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[a] Printed as Appendix III on page 1094 infra.

A.—(*a*) The Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards has been asked to prepare and submit the normal budgets of the new district boards into which the present district boards referred to will be bifurcated and he has sent the budgets of the new boards of Coimbatore district.

(*b*) & (*c*) The Government do not understand exactly what the hon. Member means by "the annual normal income and expenditure under all the heads."

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—"In answer to clause (*a*) it has been stated: 'The Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards has been asked to prepare and submit the normal budgets of the new district boards into which the present district boards referred to will be bifurcated and he has sent the budgets of the new boards of Coimbatore district.' May I ask the Hon. the Chief Minister whether the normal budgets now received from the Inspector support bifurcation or not?"

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"How can that be stated before the whole question is examined?"

Proposals for the bifurcation of the Chingleput District Board.

* 1066 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) at what stage the question of bifurcation of Chingleput District Board is;

(*b*) what the approximate annual income and expenditure of each of the bifurcated district boards of Chingleput will be;

(*c*) what the views or the remarks of the Collector of the district and the Finance Department of the Government are with regard to the bifurcation of this (Chingleput District Board);

(*d*) whether copies of them (their views or remarks) will be placed on the table;

(*e*) whether the present District Board of Chingleput was consulted in the matter of bifurcation; if so, when and what reply they gave; and

(*f*) whether a copy of their reply will be placed on the table?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) Attention is invited to the answers given to clauses (*a*) and (*b*) of question No. 961, at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on 16th March 1936.

(*c*) & (*d*) The Government consider in public interests that it is not desirable to furnish the information.

(*e*) No.

(*f*) Does not arise.

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—"Sir, the answer to clause (*e*) is 'No' which means that the present district board of Chingleput was not consulted with regard to the bifurcation proposals of that district board. May I know why the present district board of Chingleput was not consulted?"

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—" The proposal for bifurcation has been pending for a long time and they have been taking each district board one after another."

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—" The answer says that the district board was not consulted. May I know why it was not consulted? "

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—" The answer says that the present district board was not consulted. But this question was taken up three years ago."

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—" With reference to the answers given to clauses (c) and (d) that 'The Government consider in public interests that it is not desirable to furnish the information,' may I know what harm there is in placing these relevant remarks on the table of the House? "

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—" In the interests of public administration, the details given by the various boards and the Government officers are kept confidential."

Appointment of separate District Board Engineer, District Health Officer, District Board Educational Officer to the District Boards formed by bifurcation.

* 1067 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether separate District Board Engineer, District Health Officer and the District Board Educational Officer have been appointed to each of the bifurcated district boards; and

(b) if so, whether these bifurcated boards can conveniently accommodate to meet the expenditure on such highly paid officers separately for themselves?

A.—(a) A separate District Board Engineer has been appointed for each of the bifurcated district boards, except in the case of the Chicacole District Board. The District Board Engineer, Bobbili, is also the District Board Engineer of the Chicacole District Board. No separate District Health Officers or District Board Educational Officers have been appointed to the bifurcated boards.

(b) The additional cost involved in the creation of the new posts of District Board Engineers for the bifurcated district boards is met by the Government by a reduction in the annual grant payable to the boards towards the maintenance of second-class roads.

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—" With regard to the appointment of a District Board Engineer to each of these bifurcated district boards, may I ask the Hon. Minister whether it will not affect the finances of these bodies if they are asked to pay a fairly high salary for a separate District Board Engineer for each of them? "

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—" If they have separate officers, they must pay for them."

Mr. K. Koti Reddi:—" Is it not possible to ask the District Board Engineer to take up the work of the Assistant Engineers of district boards also in order to save money? "

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—" In cases where it is possible to reduce the posts of assistant engineers, it has been done, but it cannot be done as a general rule. The matter will be considered on its merits in each case."

Audit report of the Salem District Board for the year 1933–34.

* 1068 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the audit report of the Salem District Board for the year 1933–34 has reached the Government; and

(*b*) whether any orders have been passed thereon and if so, whether a copy of it will be placed on the table?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The report is under the consideration of the Government.

Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder:—" May I ask the Hon. Minister whether the Government have noticed many grave irregularities brought out in the audit report of this district board? "

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—" Before the matter is considered, I hope the hon. Member will not expect me to say whether there are irregularities or not."

Ex-taluk board clerks awaiting re-employment.

* 1069 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many persons included in the waiting list of ex-taluk board clerks to be absorbed in district board service in each district are yet to be provided with appointments;

(*b*) whether complaints have been received from the ex-taluk board clerks in the waiting list stating that their claims have been overlooked; and

(*c*) if so, from whom and what action has been taken thereon?

A.—(*a*) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the statement laid on the table of the House on the 26th March 1936 with reference to question No. 59 which was answered on 6th August 1935.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) Certain ex-taluk board clerks, a list of whom has not been made out, made their representations to Government in the matter and Government have issued orders thereon in accordance with the principles governing the re-employment of ex-taluk board servants.

Ex-taluk board clerks in the waiting list awaiting re-employment.

* 1070 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) what the number is of ex-taluk board clerks whose names have been entered in the waiting list of such clerks issued by the Government in respect of each district board; and

(*b*) of these, how many have been absorbed in permanent vacancies, and how many in acting vacancies, and how many are yet waiting for appointment in each district?

A.—The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the statement laid on the table of the House on the 26th March 1936 with reference to question No. 59 which was answered on the 6th August 1935.

Disbursements of funds to district boards from the Road Development Fund.

* 1071 *Q.*—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to lay on the table of the House a statement showing the amounts so far given to each district board out of the Road Development Fund from its commencement up to date?

A.—A statement [a] is laid on the table.

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—" Sir, I find from the statement furnished in Appendix IV that at least seven or eight district boards have not so far received any contribution from the Road Developmnt Fund. May I ask the reason for this? "

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—" It depends upon whether schemes or plans and estimates of particular district boards which apply for a contribution from the Road Development Fund are ready or not. In cases where the district boards have not received a contribution from the Road Development Fund, they would have received grants from provincial funds."

Mr. K. KOTI REDDI:—" May I know, Sir, whether the only criterion for distributing funds from the Road Development Fund is whether the schemes are ready or not, because it is just possible that some district boards without having any idea of the funds which would be available to them might not have prepared the scheme at all and that is no reason why they should be deprived of their contribution altogether? "

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—" I am afraid the hon. Member has not understood the position. If a district board has not got proposals, it does not mean that it will be deprived of the contribution for ever. Every year we get a certain share from the Government of India and in allotting the moneys it stands to reason that Government should allot them to those district boards

[a] Printed as Appendix IV on page 1095 infra.

which are in a position to spend them. As regards the boards which have not been ready with their schemes, they have to wait till their turn comes next year."

Mr. K. Koti Reddi:—" May I ask why the Government should not allot to each district its share of this petrol subvention in proportion to the petrol consumed in the district so that the district board may spend as much amount as it pleases when it is ready with its own schemes? "

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—" That would really mean that the district board would not be using the money and large balances would be accumulating. Moreover, under the rules each scheme must receive the approval of the local board of communications and the Central Board of the Government of India. We have no authority to allot money on any district basis."

Mr. V. T. Arasu:—" From the statement appended we find that ten or twelve district boards have not at all received any grant from this fund during the last five years. From that are we to infer that these boards have not submitted any scheme for the consideration of the Government all these five years? "

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—" I cannot say off-hand that they have not submitted any scheme. Each scheme has to be considered with reference to its relative importance to the Province. Most probably they did not submit any schemes which deserved preference. Some of these district boards too—I cannot say off-hand which—must have received grants from the provincial funds."

List of works to be executed in 1936–37 under the Vipan Scheme.

* 1072 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the list of works to be taken up in each district under Mr. Vipan's scheme for the year 1936–37 has been drawn up;

(*b*) if so, whether a copy of it will be placed on the table, also giving particulars about the cost of each work; and

(*c*) on what principles the list was drawn up and the works selected?

A.—The list is under preparation. A note [a] suggesting the principles on which selection is to be made is appended. This matter is under the consideration of Government.

Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder:—" Sir, the answer says that principles have been enunciated for the selection of works. One of the principles, I find, is this: ' The construction of an important work on an inter-district or trunk road should not however prejudice unduly the

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[a] Printed as Appendix V on page 1095 infra.

claims of the district in which it is constructed to grants for the development of its internal communications.' From this am I to understand that the proposed bridge at Pugalur providing inter-district communication between Salem and Trichinopoly which has been mentioned in Mr. Vipan's scheme, will not be given any preference?"

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"It only refers to the general principles. I can assure the hon. Member that when this principle was laid down the question of this bridge was never in the mind of the Government."

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—"May I ask the Hon. Minister whether the Government are aware that the construction of this bridge will also increase the resources of the railway company by providing a short communication from these Salem areas to the railway station at Pugalur?"

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"I am not aware of that."

Construction of a bridge across the Tambraparni near Vallanad.

* 1073 *Q.*—Mr. M. DEVADASAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) if the Government proposed to put up a bridge across the Tambaraparni near Vallanad in Tinnevelly district;

(*b*) if so, how much money was allotted for that purpose; and

(*c*) whether anything has been done since?

A.—(*a*) There is a proposal to construct a bridge across the Tambraparni at Murappanad on the road from Tinnevelly to Tuticorin, at an estimated cost of Rs. 5 lakhs. The hon. Member apparently refers to this proposal.

(*b*) & (*c*) It is proposed to finance the construction of the bridge at Murappanad from the share of this Government in the Road Development Account. Necessary sanction of the Government of India for the debit of the cost of the work to the Road Development Account has been applied for but has not yet been received.

Alleged maladministration of the panchayats of Muthupet and Vedaranniyam, East Tanjore.

* 1074 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Panchayat Board of Tiruturaipundi was ordered by the Government to be inspected by the Inspector of Local Boards and, if so, whether it is on the representations of the public of the place or on the move of the President of the East Tanjore District Board;

(*b*) whether the inspection is over;

(*c*) if so, whether a copy of the report of inspection will be placed on the table;

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(*d*) what action has been or is proposed to be taken in the matter;

(*e*) whether it is a fact that complaints have been received about the maladministration of the panchayats of Muthupet and Vedaranniyam in the area of the East Tanjore District Board;

(*f*) what action has been taken thereon; and

(*g*) whether the President of the East Tanjore District Board has made any reports in the matter and, if so, whether a copy thereof will be placed on the table?

A.—(*a*) *to* (*d*) The papers have been transferred to the Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards for disposal.

(*e*) *to* (*g*) The Government have no information regarding the maladministration in the Muthupet Panchayat Board. With regard to the Vedaranniyam Panchayat Board the Government understand that the Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards has issued a notice to the panchayat board asking it to show cause why it should not be superseded and that its reply is awaited. The Government consider that no public interest will be served by placing the papers on the table.

Alleged obstruction to the Adi-Dravidas of Vilathikulam village in the user of pathways.

* 1075 *Q.*—Mr. M. DEVADASAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Adi-Dravidas, living within the limits of the Panchayat Board, Vilathikulam, have sent in memorials to the District Collector, Tinnevelly, the Divisional Officer, Koilpatti, the President of the Panchayat Board, Vilathikulam, and the Deputy Tahsildar, Vilathikulam, complaining of obstruction, on the part of the caste Hindus, in the use by the Adi-Dravidas of the pathways leading to their quarters; and

(*b*) if so, what action has been taken on them; if not, why not?

A.—Copies [a] of the reports received from the Collector of Tinnevelly and the President of the Vilathikulam Panchayat Board on the subject are laid on the table. It is understood that the programme of works for 1936–37 referred to in the Collector's report is under the consideration of the Commissioner of Labour.

Resolution of the Salem Municipal Council for the reduction of the cycle tax.

* 1076 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Municipal Council, Salem, have decided to reduce the cycle tax in their area from 1st April 1936, and applied to Government for sanction;

[a] Printed as Appendix VI on page 1096 infra.

(b) if so, whether orders have been passed thereon; and

(c) whether a copy of the resolution of the Municipal Council, together with a copy of the covering letter addressed to Government in the matter as well as a copy of the order passed, will be placed on the table?

A.—(a) & (b) Yes.

(c) A copy [a] of the Government Order referred to is placed on the table of the House. The Government do not consider that any useful purpose will be served by placing the other papers on the table of the House.

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—"Sir, the Government say that the financial position of the municipality is not satisfactory and so they cannot sanction the request of the municipality. Am I to understand, Sir, that it is the idea of Government that the municipality itself has not considered this aspect of the question?"

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"I am not prepared to express an opinion about the municipality. But I may say that that is the opinion of the Government. However, I may remind the hon. Member that the municipality is about to undertake a water-supply scheme costing Rs. 22 lakhs."

Excise

Employment of the depressed classes and the Christians in the Excise establishment of the Tinnevelly district.

* 1077 *Q.*—Mr. M. DEVADASAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) what is the total number of the staff in service in the Excise Department, Tinnevelly district;

(b) how many peons are employed in the district; and

(c) how many of them in (a) and (b) belong to the depressed classes and Christians?

A.—The Government have not the information asked for, but have called for it.

Medical Administration

Qualifications prescribed for the post of Assistant to the Principal, Madras Medical College.

* 1078 *Q.*—Mr. M. S. SRESHTA: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) what qualifications are required for holding the appointment of Assistant to the Principal of the Madras Medical College;

(b) whether those qualifications are possessed by the present holder of that office; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons for the qualifications not being insisted on?

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[a] Printed as Appendix VII on page 1096 infra.

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A.—No qualifications have been prescribed for this post. Any officer of the Medical College, Madras, may be entrusted with the duties of Assistant to the Principal of the College in addition to his duties without additional remuneration. M.R.Ry. S. Ramakrishnan Avargal, L.M. & S. (Mad.), L.R.C.P. & S. (Edin.), D.T.M. & H. (Lond.), Professor of Bacteriology, Medical College, Madras, is at present entrusted with the duties of Assistant to the Principal.

Scheme for the provision of X-ray apparatus in the mufassal hospitals.

* 1079 *Q.*—Mr. M. S. Sreshta: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there is a proposal for the establishment of X-ray apparatus in the Mangalore Government Hospital;

(*b*) if so, what its estimated cost is and when it will probably be taken up;

(*c*) in what districts at present there are Government hospitals not provided with X-ray apparatus;

(*d*) whether any such hospitals are, in point of distance, as far from one provided with X-ray apparatus as the Mangalore Government Hospital is; if so, what are those hospitals;

(*e*) whether any comprehensive scheme has been drawn up for providing a Government hospital in every district with X-ray apparatus; and

(*f*) if not, whether it is proposed to draw up such a scheme?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The ultimate cost of the scheme is Rs. 1,632 under 'Recurring' and Rs. 17,300 under 'Non-recurring.' The scheme will be taken up during the course of the next year if it is sanctioned.

(*c*) The districts in which X-ray has not been provided are the following:—

(1) North Arcot.	(9) Kanara, South.
(2) Malabar.	(10) Kistna.
(3) Anantapur.	(11) Kurnool.
(4) Chingleput.	(12) Nellore.
(5) Chittoor.	(13) Ramnad.
(6) Arcot, South.	(14) Salem.
(7) West Godavari.	(15) Tinnevelly.
(8) Cuddapah.	(16) Trichinopoly.

(*d*) The Government have no information.

(*e*) & (*f*) No.

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Proposals for the conversion of the post of Local Fund Sub-Assistant Surgeon at Cauvery-Mettur into one of Assistant Surgeon.

* 1080 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there are any proposals before Government for converting the post of the Local Fund Sub-Assistant Surgeon at Cauvery-Mettur into that of an Assistant Surgeon with combined public health and medical qualifications for looking after the sanitation of the town besides the dispensary work;

(*b*) whether the Surgeon-General at Madras and the officer in charge of Hydro-Electric operations at Mettur were consulted in the matter and if so, whether a copy of their remarks will be placed on the table; and

(*c*) who is to bear the extra expenditure if the proposed arrangement is to be brought into effect?

A.—(*a*) The question of making suitable arrangements for the public health administration of the area is engaging the attention of the Government. Several proposals, including the one mentioned by the hon. Member, are under consideration.

(*b*) Yes. They consider that no useful purpose will be served by placing the remarks on the table of the House.

(*c*) The District Board of Salem.

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—"With reference to the answer to clause (*c*), may I ask the Hon. Minister why the district board should bear this expenditure especially when the dispensary is to be taken over by the Government?"

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"Yes, because they have to look after the sanitation of the place."

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—"But since the dispensary itself is going to be transferred to the Government, how is it incumbent on the board to pay anything?"

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"I thought the hon. Member was referring to sanitary arrangements."

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—"May I point out that the posts of sanitary officer and the medical officer are going to be combined into one in this scheme and if the Government are going to take over the dispensary they should also undertake to meet the expenditure that will be incurred in this combined scheme?"

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"This question has not been decided; it is still under the consideration of the Government."

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Public Health

Extra expenditure due to the creation of the Public Health Department.

* 1081 *Q.*—Mr. M. B. Rangaswami Reddi: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) from what date the Medical and Public Health departments were separated;

(*b*) the improvements effected after and due to the creation of the two different departments; and

(*c*) the additional expenditure involved in the creation of the Public Health department distinct from the Medical department?

A.—(*a*) The Medical and Public Health Departments have always been two separate and distinct departments. Before the introduction of the District Health Scheme in 1923, however, District Medical Officers exercised a very limited control over sanitary and vaccination staff.

(*b*) Prior to the introduction of the District Health Scheme, there were cholera parties to deal with cholera in rural areas and Deputy Inspectors of Vaccination to deal with smallpox. The District Health Scheme provided each district with a definite staff—superior and subordinate—which resulted in a closer and more effective control of epidemics and the proper attention being paid to matters like sanitary control of fairs and festivals, health propaganda, rural sanitation, industrial hygiene, maternity and child welfare, vital statistics, food adulteration, and water-supply.

(*c*) The average annual cost involved on account of the introduction of the District Health Scheme is about 3½ lakhs approximately.

Conditions governing the grant for temperance propaganda.

* 1082 *Q.*—Mr. A. B. Shetty: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) what the conditions of grant are for temperance propaganda;

(*b*) the names of organizations helped during each year since the abolition of the Temperance Propaganda Board and the amounts sanctioned for each;

(*c*) whether Government propose to provide any sum for temperance propaganda during 1936–37 and, if so, on what basis such estimates are made; and

(*d*) whether the officials of the Public Health Department are permitted to do temperance propaganda and to organize temperance societies?

A.—(*a*) The following are the conditions:—

(1) Applications for grants should be submitted quarterly to the Director of Public Health, through the District Health Officer concerned, with a report showing the work done and a statement showing the actual expenditure incurred during the quarter for which the claim is made together with vouchers for the same.

(2) The District Health Officers should check the accounts and forward them to the Director of Public Health with their remarks.

(3) The Director of Public Health will decide which associations should be given a grant. His decision will be final.

(4) The total amount distributed among associations during a year should not exceed the amount of grant allotted by Government for the year.

(5) The amount sanctioned to any one association should not exceed one-half of the actual expenditure incurred by the association and the maximum in any one case should not exceed Rs. 500 in a year.

(6) The grant for the last quarter for each year may be paid during the first quarter of the succeeding year if payment cannot be made during the last quarter itself. The commitment on this account should not exceed the unspent balance at the end of the year to which the claim relates.

(7) No guarantee can be given that the grant sanctioned in a year will be repeated in the succeeding year or years.

(8) The grant sanctioned to an association is liable to be reduced or withdrawn if the association ceases to do effective work or for any other sufficient reason.

(*b*) Vide annexure.[a]

(*c*) No.

(*d*) They have been asked to recommend and encourage total abstinence from a public health point of view.

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—"May I ask the Hon. Minister why so few Associations have come forward to ask for help from Government? Is it due to the rigidity of the conditions imposed for the giving of these grants?"

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"I do not know if it is due to the rigidity of the conditions or any other cause. It is a question for the Associations concerned to answer."

[a] Printed as Appendix VIII on page 1099 infra.

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Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" May I ask whether the Government's liberal grants have met in full the requests of the Associations? "

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR :—" To the extent of the amount that is available in the Budget."

Mr. A. B. SHETTY :—" With reference to the answer to clause (*d*), may I ask whether the Public Health Department is carrying on temperance propaganda in every district and if so with what result? "

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR :—" The answer says they have been asked to do propaganda and we have no reason to suppose that they are not doing it."

Land Revenue Administration

Collection of kist in South Arcot.

* 1083 *Q.*—Mr. N. HALASYAM AYYAR : Will the Hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether Revenue orders have been issued in the district of South Arcot directing the collection of kist from pattadars liable to pay a kist of Rs. 5 and below in one instalment;

(*b*) whether the Hon. the Revenue Member will be pleased to give a copy of G.O. No. 13, Revenue, dated 8th January 1936;

(*c*) whether the ryots are subjected to coercive processes, whether a process fee of 3 annas is levied as process fee in the first instance in case of failure to pay the kist in time and whether the ryots are compelled to pay an additional process fee of 3 annas in cases of attachment of immovables; and

(*d*) whether the collection of kist in one instalment is a new departure?

A.—(*a*) & (*d*) Orders have been issued that as an experimental measure, for a period of one year, the minimum amount of land revenue that should be collected in one instalment should be raised from one rupee to five rupees in the South Arcot district.

(*b*) An extract [a] of G.O. No. 13, Revenue, dated 6th January 1936, relating to the question raised above is attached. The Government do not consider that it is necessary to furnish a copy of the rest of the Government Order.

(*c*) The Government have no information.

Mr. N. HALASYAM AYYAR :—" May I ask the Hon. the Revenue Member whether the orders affect almost the majority of the ryots in South Arcot district? "

The Hon. Sir CHARLES SOUTER :—" I am unable to say that, Sir. I may mention to the House that when this question was first of all raised, I asked the Collector of South Arcot what would be the effect of this order and he told me that most of the ryots would be rather glad to do this because it saved them the trouble of having to go and pay their kists three times instead of once."

[a] Printed as Appendix IX on page 1099 infra.

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Mr. V. T. ARASU :—" Arising out of the answer that the Collector was of opinion that most of the ryots were anxious to pay in one instalment, may I ask whether the Collector convened any conference of the ryots and whether any resolution was passed by that conference to the effect that they would prefer to pay in one instalment? "

The Hon. Sir CHARLES SOUTER :—" No, Sir."

Mr. V. T. ARASU :—" If not, how did the Collector arrive at that opinion? "

The Hon. Sir CHARLES SOUTER :—" How can the Collector arrive at any opinion, Sir? "

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" May I ask whether the Hon. the Revenue Member is in a position to say that he received representations from any recognized associations of ryots to the effect that they would prefer to pay in one lump sum instead of in instalments? "

The Hon. Sir CHARLES SOUTER :—" I have only told the House what a very experienced Collector has told me."

Mr. V. T. ARASU :—" May I ask whether the Hon. the Revenue Member is aware of the fact that a conference of the ryots held at Chidambaram has protested against this order and requested the Government not to enforce it and informed them that they would prefer to pay in four instalments as usual? "

The Hon. Sir CHARLES SOUTER :—" I have no recollection of it."

Education

Raising the minimum number of marks for a pass in English in the S.S.L.C. Examination.

* 1084 *Q.*—Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the minimum for pass in English in Secondary School-Leaving Certificate Examination has been raised recently to 40 per cent;

(*b*) whether the Secondary School-Leaving Certificate Board, Director of Public Instruction and the Government have received any protests that such a change ought not to have been made without sufficient notice to the school authorities and the students; and

(*c*) whether the said matter is being reconsidered, so as not to make the changed rule applicable to the candidates who sit for the examination this year (this month)?

A.—(*a*) There is no such thing as ' passing ' in this examination, and there is consequently no ' minimum for a pass ' in English or any other subject. It is open to each of the three Universities, to the Railways, to the Government or to any other body, to fix its own standard for admission to its classes or services in terms of subjects taken at the examination or of the marks gained in those subjects. In December 1932, Government fixed 40 as the

minimum percentage of marks in English qualifying for admission to the public service. Early last year the Madras University decided to raise the minimum marks in English qualifying for admission to its University classes, from 35 to 40 per cent, and this change was notified in the *Fort St. George Gazette* of 16th April 1935.

(*b*) A few protests have been received in the office of the Director of Public Instruction.

(*c*) The Government have no information. The matter is one for consideration by the University of Madras.

Conditions governing the recognition of 'Approved Schools of Commerce.'

* 1085 *Q.*—Mr. N. HALASYAM AYYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) what, if any, are the rules and regulations to be observed by the approved schools of commerce and if they have prescribed any general and technical qualification for the staff in such schools and, if so, to furnish particulars thereof;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that a certain number of these approved schools in the Presidency has been temporarily approved for a period of one year only; if so, what are the reasons for such temporary approval;

(*c*) whether it is a fact that, in respect of each subject taught in an approved school, the District Educational Officer, Trichinopoly, insists on the possession, by the head of or the teacher employed in such school of a Technical Teacher's Certificate of the Higher Grade as a condition precedent to permanent approval; if so, why the District Educational Officer has not insisted on this rule with regard to certain schools which have been permanently approved;

(*d*) whether the possession of a Technical Teacher's certificate referred to above is insisted on in all the other districts of the Presidency; and

(*e*) whether the Government propose to extend the benefits of the Grant-in-Aid Code by way of teaching grants to these approved schools of Commerce?

A.—(*a*) No hard and fast rules have been laid down, but the inspecting officers have been advised to consider the *bona fide* character of a school, the good work done in connexion with the Government examinations and the desirability of having a qualified teacher on the staff.

(*b*) Yes, because the general condition of such schools have been reported by the inspecting officers to be unsatisfactory.

(*c*) The District Educational Officer, Trichinopoly, considers the staff of the schools which have been approved temporarily as unsatisfactory: in schools permanently approved the conditions are better.

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(d) The possession of a Technical Teacher's Certificate is considered desirable and this has been brought to the notice of the managements.

(e) There is no such proposal at present.

Results of the Government Technical Examinations in Shorthand.

* 1086 *Q.*—Mr. N. Halasyam Ayyar: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government will be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing the number of candidates that appeared for and the number that passed in the various commerce subjects of the Government Technical Examinations from January 1933 onwards; and

(b) whether the Government propose to investigate into the causes of such poor percentage of passes, especially in Shorthand and Typewriting?

A.—(a) A statement [a] containing the particulars is appended.

(b) The Government do not consider that there is any need to investigate the matter.

Savings, if any, due to the transfer of the Government Training School, Salem, to Mettur.

* 1087 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether the buildings occupied by the Government Training School at Mettur, and the quarters allotted to the staff and the pupils have been purchased by the Department of Education and, if so, at what cost;

(b) what the expenditure incurred was in making necessary alterations in the buildings to suit the purpose;

(c) what the expenditure incurred under various items in connexion with the transfer of the said school to Mettur was;

(d) what the amount is of expenditure incurred for that school in each year for the past five years under each of the items of expenditure—capital and ordinary, and what will be the expenditure under each head during this year and the amount budgeted for the next year; and

(e) whether there are any savings left by the transfer of the school after interest and depreciation charges are deducted for the capital expenditure?

A.—(a) The buildings occupied by the Government Training School for Masters at Mettur and the quarters allotted to the staff and pupils have been transferred to the Education Department by the Public Works Department. The book value of these buildings is Rs. 77,307.

(b) About Rs. 4,000.

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[a] Printed as Appendix X on page 1100 infra.

(c) The actual cost of transfer was Rs. 1,050 made up as follows:—

	RS.
Transport of equipment	740
Travelling allowances to staff and students	310
	1,050

(d) A statement [a] is appended. There has been no capital expenditure during the last five years while the school has been at Salem.

(e) The amount paid by way of rent for the various private buildings that were being used by the Government Training School and Government Girls' High School, Salem, prior to the transfer of the Training School to Mettur was Rs. 3,060 per annum. This full amount is now being saved.

The present capital value of the buildings now occupied by the Training School at Mettur (disregarding the buildings occupied by the school staff for which rent is being paid) is Rs. 59,000 and the interest charges at 6 per cent work out to Rs. 3,540. Strictly speaking, if this sum is set off against the rent which was being paid in Salem there are no savings as a result of the transfer although the fact must not be lost sight of that if this school had not been transferred to Mettur the interest charges on the capital cost of these buildings would still have to be paid by Government.

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—" May I ask whether there are any proposals to charge rents for the quarters occupied by the students at Mettur?"

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" Notice, Sir."

Excise

List of new liquor shops proposed to be opened during the ensuing year.

* 1088 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether any information with regard to the proposal for opening new liquor shops for the coming year is now available with the Government or with the Commissioner of Excise;

[a] Printed as Appendix XI on page 1101 infra.

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(b) how many such shops (arrack, toddy, or otherwise) are proposed to be opened in each district separately; and

(c) whether a divisionwar or, if not, districtwar list of them will be placed on the table?

A.—(a) to (c) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to question No. 667 answered on 31st January 1936. The Government have no further information.

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—"May I ask the Hon. Minister to call for a list and see whether their declared policy and principles have not been violated by opening shops in this manner?"

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"I do not think, Sir, it is necessary to call for a list."

[*Note.*—**An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.**]

II.—STATEMENT *RE* THE NUMBER OF QUESTIONS PUT AND ANSWERED DURING THE SESSION.

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"This being the last day of the session, I wish to inform the House that the number of questions of which notice was received during the session was 1,287; of this, the number admitted was 1,105; that disallowed was 138; that withdrawn was 14; that referred back to the Members of the Legislative Council for further information but not received back from them is 30. Of the 1,105 questions admitted, notice has not been waived in the case of two questions. One thousand and ninety-nine questions have been answered by the Government and only four questions have lapsed unanswered.

"It may also be interesting to know that the very first question that was given notice of and the last question that has been answered are both from Mr. Nachiyappa Gounder. (Laughter.)"

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"Sir, with regard to the four questions which have lapsed unanswered by the Government, may I suggest that the Government might send the answers to those questions to the Council office and that they might be published along with the proceedings of the last day of the session? Such a thing has been done before."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"If the Government think it is possible, they can communicate the answers to the members or place them on the table of the House next session."

III.—ACT ASSENTED TO BY HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR.

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I have to announce that the Madras City Municipal (Amendment) Act, 1936, received the assent of His Excellency the Governor on the 20th March 1936."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—" The discussion on Demand No. XXII will continue."

* Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—" Mr. President, Sir, the day before yesterday evening I spoke about the desirability of extending the course of veterinary education and the necessity for developing the laboratory in the Veterinary College. It is also necessary that we must have one veterinary assistant in each taluk. We should also establish a veterinary dispensary or hospital in each one of our taluks. Sir, the Provincial Veterinary Conference which met in this City in December last has made its recommendations regarding a ten-year plan of development in this matter and they have submitted their proposals for the consideration of the Provincial Economic Council which has been constituted by the Government for considering a programme of development in these matters. I hope, Sir, that the recommendations of this conference which can speak with authority about the veterinary needs of this Province will receive the consideration they deserve from the Hon. Minister.

" I find from the Budget that there is a proposal to recruit an officer from England as lecturer in Pathology and Bacteriology. Provision has been made in Part II schemes for this purpose. Sir, this work has been done very efficiently by a Provincial Service Officer during the last 1½ years. At the Veterinary College there are local graduates with the post-graduate training in England and with good experience in teaching and research work who are competent to do this work.

" In these circumstances I wish to know what the necessity is for recruiting an officer from England for doing this work. The Government review on the administration report says that research work continued as usual and many interesting experiments were being carried on. If research work and experimental work are being carried on efficiently by a Provincial Service Officer in the College, what is the necessity to get an officer from outside. If it is considered that only M.R.C.V.S. men are fit to do this work, I understand there are such men in other provinces, men with good experience in teaching and research work who can be got for this work at a cheaper cost. Sir, recruitment of officers from outside the country for higher appointments denies chances of promotion for deserving men in the department, who are doing efficient work. The Assistant in Pathology who has been doing this work for about ten years could have been very well sent for training in England and he would have come back trained by this time, and his services would have been available at much cheaper cost. If it is necessary to recruit a man from outside for any reason, I hope the Hon. Minister will at least give an assurance that this will be only a temporary arrangement and that the officer who is got will not be retained for more than three years."

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Mr. K. P. Raman Menon:—" Sir, I wish to associate myself with what has been said by Mr. Shetty in connexion with the recruitment of an officer from outside the country. I learnt that this appointment was going to be made in the year 1934. It was not possible to get anybody just then. Another gentleman has been doing this work all along for the past $1\frac{1}{2}$ years; furthermore, that gentleman has been appointed and been trained for this particular work. In these circumstances I fail to see why a gentleman from England should be imported to do this work. Is this not against the principle of the Indianization of the services? I have all along been thinking that the Justice Party stands for Indianization of the services—and this principle was recognized and introduced by no less a person than the late Raja of Panagal himself—and that they have all along been alive to that part of their programme. Now, Sir, that aspect of the question has been given the go-by by the late Raja of Panagal's successor, by the Hon. Gentleman of the position of Mr. Rajan.

" Then again, Sir, from our experience we find that officers imported on contract system usually stick to this country. Once they are imported, it is difficult to get rid of them. My own suspicion is—I may be wrong—that this gentleman will be fit for some appointment as head of the college or some key position in the service after his contract has expired. If, as a matter of fact, a gentleman with special qualifications is necessary, why not send Indians to England and get them trained? Is there any paucity of Indians to be sent to England for training there and to be equipped for the work that is being done here? If we cannot get a man from the Madras Presidency, are not men available in Bombay, Bengal or elsewhere in India? Have we to go all the way to England and find an officer to be imported into this country? After all, with all the training that that gentleman has in England, conditions in India differ greatly from the conditions in Europe and he has to study the conditions here for a couple of years at least and by that time his contract will probably be over. What is the good of importing a man who does not know anything of the conditions in this country and then barring the promotion and the chances of employees who are already in service and who are doing good work in the department all along? I submit that this is a policy which ought to be discouraged? I hope that, so long as this principle of Indianization of services is kept in view, such an appointment will not be made and even if it is proposed, the Hon. Minister will see that it is dropped and that an Indian is appointed to this place."

* Mr. V. P. Narayanan Nambiyar:—" Mr. President, Sir, the proposal to recruit from abroad a veterinary graduate to fill the post of the Professor of Pathology in the Madras Veterinary College is in utter disregard of the policy of Indianization, financial condition of the Province and the acute problem of unemployment now existing. Recruitment to the Indian Veterinary Service was stopped some years ago and the service was provincialized with a view to give ample scope to local talent and to reduce the cost. That being so, why should the

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policy of Indianization be circumvented by bringing in a Professor on contract basis? With reference to this there was a leaderette in the *Hindu* of the 14th November 1934 wherein it was said as follows:—'The veterinary service is one to which concession to idiosyncracies of race which are demanded in respect of certain other services like the Medical Service cannot apply. There should, therefore, be no difficulty in enforcing the policy of Indianization in regard to it, especially as there are Indians who have distinguished themselves in the field.' I understand that the pay proposed is Rs. 1,000 to Rs. 1,100 per mensem. The crying need of the hour is to serve rural areas, and it will be more profitable to utilize the sum of Rs. 1,000 to provide for twenty assistant veterinary surgeons to work in the villages. In a way that will also relieve unemployment among the veterinary graduates. The present proposal is due to the sad demise of Professor V. Krishnamurthi Ayyar in the year 1934. But for 18 months now a gentleman has already been doing the work, and he was also given post-graduate training for three months at Mukteswar at Government expense. Again, it cannot be said that Indians cannot fill the place with distinction. Professor Krishnamurthi Ayyar filled the place with great distinction. I hope the Hon. Minister is also aware that the Professor of Pathology in the Imperial Institute of Veterinary Research at Mukteswar is an Indian. Finally, some do feel that this is the thin end of the wedge to import from abroad a successor when the present Director of Veterinary Services retires. I hope that is really not so."

* Rao Sahib V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"Sir, I have given notice of a cut motion to point out the inadequate facilities obtaining for cattle-breeding and maintenance in the districts. The ryots are not able to take keen interest in maintaining their cattle as they do not get enough facilities. Of late some of the Collectors have taken some interest in the matter. So, I request the Government to afford them necessary facilities. In some districts there are pinjarapoles where unfit cattle are sent to and looked after. I request the Government to do something in the matter."

* The Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—"Sir, the appointment of the Professor of Pathology has given room for a great deal of comment. When Professor Krishnamurti died, that place had to be filled by some one to carry on the work; but unfortunately no suitable person was available for filling it up permanently. In consultation with the Director of the Veterinary Services we proposed to appoint an officer on contract for a period of three years who, in the meantime, will train some men in the department, so that when the officer's period of contract is over, his post will be taken up by those trained by him. Accordingly it was advertised in the newspapers and applications from suitable candidates were invited. Nobody was forthcoming. None with the necessary qualifications was available for appointment. I cannot say offhand what the qualifications required for this appointment are. If the hon. Member wants it, I can certainly furnish the information later on. This appointment was advertised with the qualifications

required stated in the advertisement. As I said, we could not get one here. So we have to recruit a person from England for a period of three years, on contract.

45 a. "In regard to this appointment, the Ministry has not given up the ideal of Indianization of services. If Indianization means merely recruiting Indians irrespective of qualifications, I am afraid I cannot accept the suggestion."

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—"Other things being equal, Indians will be preferred, I think?"

* The Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—"Other things being equal, certainly the claims of Indians will be considered. But if Indians do not possess the qualifications, would hon. Members like me to make the appointment simply because they are Indians? I hope not. The post of Professor of Pathology is an important one, and we cannot entrust that important work to anybody. I should also like to say that in regard to posts of this character, we wanted to train men who could eventually be appointed to the post later on; but owing to the retrenchment scheme we could not give necessary training, or give facilities to subordinates who would like to go to foreign countries in order to equip themselves for promotion. This aspect of the question will be given greater attention when funds are available.

"Sir, it was also suggested in regard to this appointment that the Government proposed to keep him for three years in the first instance, then prolong the period of appointment for some reason or other, so that ultimately he might be made to succeed the Director of Veterinary Services. That is not correct, because the officer is going to be here only for three years. So far as I am concerned, I may say the appointment will be made on contract for a period of three years, and I am quite sure that when this period expires the Government of the day would consider the question and retain his services, only if found necessary. As far as I can see, by the end of the three years, we should have our own man trained to succeed to the post. Even assuming for argument's sake that the term of the officer is extended beyond three years by my successor, he cannot be made to succeed the Director of Veterinary Services; because there are senior men, better qualified and better acquainted with the working of the department to be appointed to that post. So, I can certainly give this assurance that so far as I am concerned, the appointment will be only for a period of three years. We have advertised only to that effect; and if Indians are recommended for the post by the High Commissioner, certainly their claims will be considered."

Mr. V. P. NARAYANAN NAMBIYAR:—"Why should a man be brought at all?"

* The Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—"As I said, the post was advertised for in this country, but as no suitable candidates were forthcoming, we had to advertise in England."

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Mr. V. P. Narayanan Nambiyar:—" Is the work suffering? "

The Hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan:—" I dare say anybody can carry on the work for the time being. If we want to maintain the efficient standard which was set up by the late Professor, I feel that a man with the necessary qualifications and experience should be appointed. But, as I said, I can give this assurance, that this officer, whoever he may be, whether an Indian or an Englishman, will not succeed the Director of Veterinary Services."

Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar:—" Who will make the appointment? "

The Hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan:—" Government will make the appointment. If recruitment is made in England, the High Commissioner will recommend the name; if done in India the recommendation will be made by the Services Commission. My friend Mr. Narayanan Nambiyar said that for the pay of this officer, we could employ about twenty assistant veterinary surgeons. If you apply that policy all-round, you can as well ask that all higher officers may go home, so that a large number of subordinate officers may be appointed. After all, it must be remembered that for work which requires technical knowledge and experience, we must pay adequately, if we want good results. It was also stated by my friend that by this recruitment, the chances of promotion would be denied to the permanent men in the department. It is only with a view to see that deserving men of the department are not deprived of their chances that this appointment is made on a contract basis and that for a short period.

" Coming now to my hon. Friend, Mr. Shetty, he said that the serum institute should be in a position to manufacture virus or sera of all sorts. As a matter of fact, as far as rinderpest is concerned, we have made enough virus and vaccine. I was told only this morning that for treating hæmorrhagic septicæmia we are making our own serum; but at present we cannot make it in sufficiently large quantities to meet the demand. We propose therefore to increase the manufacture of this serum, and when this problem is solved, the question of making virus for blackquarter disease will be taken up.

" Then my friend asked me when the Veterinary Degree course would be established. Sir, as soon as the Budget is voted and additional funds are made available, orders will be issued for the inauguration of the Veterinary Degree course.

" Mr. Nachiyappa Gounder stated that touring veterinary officers do not tour sufficiently and that when the cattle in any place are attacked by disease, these men do not turn up there in time. Sir, circulars have been issued to the effect that village officers should inform any cases of outbreak to the touring veterinary assistant surgeon, and to the Deputy Director of the circle, so that touring officers may go there at the earliest possible opportunity and tackle the problem. In case the services of one man are found insufficient, the services of other men also are utilized for the purpose.

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" Then my friend suggested that there is no sufficiently close contact between the Agricultural and Veterinary departments. As far as I am aware, these two departments have been working together. If in any direction there is want of co-operation between these two departments, and if any specific instances are brought to my notice, I shall be glad to look into the matter. Again, as regards the suggestion that in veterinary dispensaries, no fees should be charged, I may say that except in the case of people who get an income of more than Rs. 200, services rendered to the animals of all the others should be free.

" My friend Mr. Nachiyappa Gounder suggested that touring veterinary assistant surgeons should remain at least for a night in a village to acquaint themselves with the conditions there. As matters stand at present, it is not possible for them to do so. It has been the aim of the department to have one veterinary assistant surgeon for each taluk, but as that programme has not yet been given effect to, it is not possible for these veterinary officers who have large jurisdiction to stop in any village for any length of time. Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar points out to me that that is what each successive Minister has been saying. I may say I am only following in their footsteps. Unless we can find more funds, this is not possible. It is all a question of giving necessary service and help to the people; and that cannot be done fully without having more funds at our disposal.

" Sir, there is one more item which I should like to refer to before I finish. My friend Mr. Koti Reddi suggested—last but not least—I attach great importance to his remarks— . . ."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—" The Hon. Minister may make himself more audible when replying to Mr. Koti Reddi's remarks."

* The Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—" Sir, Mr. Koti Reddi suggested that the indigenous system of treatment of cattle should be studied and that the veterinary staff should adopt as far as possible the methods and medicines that are found effective in our indigenous system; and he also said that the number of inspectors are inadequate especially in the Ceded districts.

" Sir, as regards the former suggestion, I may say that an application has been made to the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research for a grant to enable the systematized system of indigenous treatment to be practised in this country; and we are expecting their reply. In the meantime, we have brought to the notice of the veterinary surgeons a booklet dealing with this system describing the methods of treatment of animals by the indigenous system and these assistant surgeons have been instructed to study local practices and to use as far as possible the indigenous drugs. (Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar: ' What is the indigenous treatment for castration, Sir? ') (Laughter.)

" The other matter to which my hon. Friend, Mr. Koti Reddi, referred was that the Ceded districts have not been given sufficient facilities in the matter of the treatment of animals. I should like to say, Sir, that there are at present 218 veterinary assistant surgeons in

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the Presidency, of whom 32 are in the Ceded districts; and of the 32, 17 are touring assistant surgeons and 15 are hospital assistants. So, it cannot be said that Government have neglected the Ceded districts. As I said before, Sir, not only in this department but also as regards the departments which are under my control, we have got enough to do and we can do a great deal more with good results only if we have got the necessary staff and money. In regard to both of them, I am sorry to say, my departments are handicapped. (Mr. K. P. Raman Menon: 'Why not ask for more funds?') If it is a question of asking for more funds, it means new taxation; and after all the House is opposed to any kind of taxation. As I said with reference to the Agricultural demand, all the suggestions made by hon. Members will receive every consideration and wherever and whenever we can, we will give effect to them as and when funds become available."

Mr. K. Koti Reddi:—"Sir, I do not think that my motion deserves to be withdrawn because the Hon. the Minister has not given any satisfactory reply. With regard to the indigenous system of medicine and the way in which he has treated the question, his reply does not satisfy me. I want to know, Sir, what is to be done if the Agricultural Research Council to which application has been made refuse such a grant? I therefore do not think I can withdraw my motion, Sir."

The Hon. the President:—"The question is—

'*To reduce the allotment of Rs.* 19,500 *for Veterinary—Direction—Pay of Establishments by Rs.* 100.'"

The cut motion was put and lost.

The Demand was then put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XXIII—CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES—TRANSFERRED.

* The Hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan:—"Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor I move that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 11,55,500 under Demand XXIII—Co-operative Societies—Transferred."

Mr. H. M. Jagannatham:—"Sir, I rise to move the cut motion standing in my name, namely:—

'*To reduce the allotment of Rs.* 13,500 *for Co-operative Credit—Direction (Registrar)—Pay of Officers by Rs.* 100.'

in order to bring to the notice of Government, the feelings of a large number of co-operators in this Presidency. The first item I would refer to is the indiscriminate liquidation of co-operative societies which are on the increase year after year. The department seems to think that they exist to register, to audit and to liquidate societies.

"In the case of registration of societies it is possible for societies to get registered in no time provided some influential member takes the initiative in the matter. Registration of societies to cater to the needs of the upper and middle classes get immediate attention, while

much ado is made of nothing in the matter of societies for the Depressed Classes. I have known instances of inexcusable delays and after all to get in the end a refusal for registration on the plea that there exists faction in the locality and this reason was adduced by one Mr. Palaniappa when he was the Deputy Registrar. Wiser counsels prevailed later when he was relieved of the duties in this city by Mr. Giriappa who not only saw his way to register the Society and also to help them in all possible manner. The petty faction that existed in the locality, but not among the members, ceased and they are a happy lot now. I hope the Government will do well to avoid this kind of discrimination in the matter of registration of societies between richer and poorer classes and thus enlarge the gulf of separation existing between them.

" In the matter of liquidation there seems to be no principles or policy followed. The societies managed by the upper and middle classes are left to themselves until they become dormant and the shareholders and depositors are put to heavy loss by the neglect of the departmental officials who fail to take timely action out of sheer fear of the persons managing the societies. The management is allowed to spend heavily until what little is left as shares or deposits is entirely absorbed by the working of the institution. The Central Co-operative Printing Works and the Vellala Bank are instances of the kind. Even to-day the affairs of the Vellala Bank have gone from bad to worse with an overdue of nearly Rs. 70,000 when the entire outstanding is about Rs. 90,000. The Central Bank has also to obtain a decree against this Vellala Bank for a large sum due. Is it because the Bank gave entertainment to the previous Registrar that all these are ignored? While in the case of Depressed Class societies which have no deposit, where all the members are poor and unable to pay, no attempt is made to revive the society and to give them a guiding hand but one method ' liquidation ' strikes the department as a panecea for all the evils of the Depressed Classes. Why then, Sir, all these fuss of a whole department with a Special Staff at the rate of one Inspector for every 25 societies for supervision, rectification and consolidation of all societies. There is only one society for Arundhateeyas in Perambur and this Society is liquidated.

" I need not weary the members of this House with these woeful tales of the Leather Goods Co-operative Society and the Footwear Co-operative Society which were all intended for the upliftment and amelioration of the impoverished condition of the community. Suffice it to say, Sir, that some of its members who owned houses and were keeping their body and soul together all along with their head above shoulders are now made to bow down and express their sorrow for having taken active part in the movement; for their properties are under auction. The society which was registered somewhere in October 1915 was allowed to drift without a proper guidance of the department or the financing bank. There are on rolls about one hundred members with a share capital of about Rs. 600 and loans due from them come to about Rs. 400 under principal and an equal sum under interest. They owe only a sum of Rs. 1,500 to the Central Bank and the Bank holds the reserve

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fund and the shares invested in it as its security. You will see, Sir, that the society is not in an insolvent state and because no proper guidance has been given to this society by the department it has come to a dormant state.

"The department through ignorance adopts a 'hit and miss' policy involving many avoidable failures before achieving success and now for a third time or so ordered its liquidation after nearly 20 years, instead of rectifying the institution at its earlier stages. The financing bank on the other hand which is quite unfit to take up supervision over the affiliated societies was quiet all along. Its president who is not a disinterested co-operator has drawn all solvent men in the area to the society to which he is the paid secretary by getting their houses mortgaged to his society. There are to-day nearly 50 such houses mortgaged to the City Co-operative Bank to the extent of Rs. 50 thousands; there is sufficient material to improve this Depressed Classes Society but because the department had its eyes closed to all these transactions and because the financing bank guided by its president never cared for the existence of this society, it is now required to be liquidated. May I suggest why the department should not investigate into the matter at least now and try to revive this society by transferring all the assets and liabilities of the Arundhateeya members from the City Co-operative Bank? I had on previous occasions also drawn the attention of the Government that the movement is greatly in the hands of unsatisfactory men who are exploiting the societies under it to meet their selfish ends and I am at a loss to know what action was taken to eradicate this evil. I wish to draw attention to the passage in Mr. Satyanadan's report which I read to you:

'In many societies, the secretary or president, or both are men who wield great influence and completely dominate the remaining panchayatdars. Such influential men unfortunately often enter the movement, not to help the poor and needy but solely to enrich themselves by all manner of means. Loans are first taken by such men in their own names and then in the names of their friends and relations and others, whom they can dominate.'

"And I am also of the considered opinion that if the movement is to be saved and is to be of real benefit to the masses, facts, however unpleasant or uncomplementary, must be faced squarely. There should be no delay in bringing into force the amendment passed to the rules eliminating paid servant of a society to be a representative of a committee of another. Perhaps the rules and the act become ineffective as a result of the parties held in honour of departmental heads.

"Auditing is the favourite subject, the only one on which they 12.
devote all their attention, although there is a huge volume of public P.M.
opinion against the departmental audit. Much is spoken of on public platforms and much more in co-operative journals and press of the de-officializing the movement. In this respect not one of the public men and the press excel our Minister in charge who ever seem to dream of the happy day when the whole movement will be controlled by non-officials. But alas! very little truth seems to be revealed. The Registrar insists on departmental audit by men who are qualified for some

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months in a co-operative institute in charge generally of a Deputy Registrar. I challenge, Sir, anyone who knows anything of accountancy to say whether the present system of auditing of societies is in any way superior to the audit by the community of diplomats engaged by the public at large. If only an examination is held between the departmental auditors and G.D.A.'s the state of affairs will be revealed in all their nakedness. If this mighty departmental auditors have been checking the accounts so well and thoroughly with their so-called concurrent auditing why then is there room for so many defalcations, in the High Court Co-operative Society, Workers' Co-operative Bank, Purasawakam Co-operative Bank, Vizianagram Co-operative Bank, Guntur Co-operative Bank and other banks. In spite of all these defects and the iniquities that the department is subjected to by undertaking this work no remedial measures have been thought of to effect the audit efficient and thorough. Even the managing Governor of the Imperial Bank is of opinion that the fundamental principle of true co-operation is lacking. Overdues are highly excessive; audit is defective, control is inefficient. The Registrar who under the statute is responsible for the audit seems to think that the departmental inspectors and his deputies are the saviours of the movement and perhaps doubts the audit by outsiders. There may also be this danger of the public auditors being purchased by the societies and banks and at the same time the Registrar held responsible for the commission and omissions of the auditors.

"But the inspectors deputed often are afraid to bring to notice serious errors and breach of by-laws for fear of men connected with it and even if any report is submitted adequate action is not taken to rectify defects but merely passed over by the departmental heads. On previous occasions also I had to bring to the notice of the Government how the auditor's report extending over 35 pages of typed matter against a bank in this city was merely shelved. In this matter the department collects unusually huge sums of money as audit fees which the societies are compelled to pay under the provision of the act on pain of coercive steps being taken by the department, if the excessive demand made by them, which is out of proportion is not met with by the society concerned. The subject of audit fees has been discussed thread-bare in almost every conference and the Government has now and again admitted that the charges are heavy and Government Orders have been issued reducing the scale of fees. But all these are only on paper. If only an enquiry is made into this it would reveal that the fees now charged are far in excess of the previous sum levied. These may seem paradoxical but none the less they are hard facts and will only go to show that the department makes huge sum of money on this account without any return to the societies concerned. If the societies are allowed to have their own audit they would perhaps have to pay 75 per cent less. The rules provide for remission of fees either in part or whole but the discretion is exercised only in case of a favoured few, but refused in deserving cases. Even in the grant of clerical allowances for poor and Depressed Class societies no discretion is used but the grant is allowed

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to lapse and not offered to even deserving societies. If on a subject of this kind the Government cannot see eye to eye with facts staring at their face, all their tall talks of de-officialization is a myth.

"In the matter of application of Rule XX it was pursued very vigorously against a few and honest workers. The assistance of these honest workers was welcomed and appreciated by the public and the department, but, the rule was ruthlessly applied to some members and only to satisfy some personal motives which was also brought to the notice of the Hon. Minister. Is it to be understood now that no one at present is a member in more than one society? And the rule has worked miraculously well and saved the movement, and why then further action is not taken to eliminate, the persons connected with more than one society. May I know if any such action was taken against ever so many members of this Honourable House including Dr. C. Natesa Mudaliyar, our Deputy President and others too numerous to mention who are members of more than one co-operative society?

"Not only this, I know of an instance where a small honorarium was granted by the general body to the honorary office-bearers of a good and well managed society in the city which earned a net profit of Rs. 36,000 but the Registrar steps in with his technical objection and says that the general body has no powers to distribute a small portion of the profit within the limit laid down in the by-laws as honorarium to the office-bearers of a previous year. The department is not forgetful of the honest labour rendered by the honorary workers and the Registrar does not in the least say that they do not deserve it but on the other hand they realize that the honorary workers should be encouraged and advocates in a recent circular to the societies that some remuneration, either by way of honorarium not exceeding generally 15 to 20 per cent of the net profit or a fixed monthly allowance should be given to the honorary office-bearers. It is after all an amount from the surplus profit earned and granted through a free will of the members of the general body. Why then the department should raise an objection is hardly conceivable.

"The present heads of the department may not be responsible for all inequities but still the marks of such black spots left by their predecessors in office have not been effaced and the movement rendered more pure and true.

"From the few facts brought to your notice on the floor of this House you will find, Sir, how callously indifferent the department has worked. I hope at least now the Hon. the Minister will look into the matter and rectify the defects as early as possible. There is only one hope in the present Registrar, Mr. Austin, who has been only for some months and who has been able to get a capable Joint Registrar in the person of Mr. Giriappa who is very much devoted to the cause of the Depressed Classes. Let us hope that their combined efforts will solve the problem of 'untouchables' which blot can only be removed if at all, through co-operation, with its watchword 'each for all and all for each.'

"With these words, I move the cut motion."

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* Diwan Bahadur A. APPADURAI PILLAI:—" Mr. Deputy President, Sir, of all the departments in the services the Co-operative department is one which has very heavy responsibilities to face. That department ought to teach people thrift. It is not often that men cut their coats according to their cloth. Naturally the balance at the disposal of men is sparse while the expenditure tends to increase. But a perusal of the report of the Co-operative department will show what a tremendous work has been done by the officers of the Co-operative department and what selfless task they perform. It is easy to find fault with the work of the department, but, Sir, considering the amount of responsibility, the amount of labour of an arduous kind necessary to make people cultivate the habit of thrift it is but fair to compliment the department on its work. Sir, there are one or two points which I would like the Hon. Minister in charge of Co-operation kindly to pay attention to in the coming year. One is the hurry with which credit societies are formed and the hurry with which credit societies are liquidated. I find from the department's report that 1,602 societies are under liquidation. This is a very high figure. No doubt the Government in their review say that there has been a slight fall in the number of liquidated societies. Sir, the explanation often given by the Deputy Registrars and the Sub-Deputy Registrars of Co-operative Societies is want of human material. This description is peculiar to the Co-operative department. I have often questioned the use of this language. It is no doubt an euphemistic way of saying that suitable men fit for managing co-operative societies are not available. Whatever it is, the want of material has already been there. Ever since the starting of the Co-operative department we know that suitable agency to run the co-operative societies has been lacking. It is no use therefore saying that societies are liquidated for want of human material. We have to make the best use of the material that is available. What then is the reason for such extensive liquidation? It is the want of attention and tact on the part of the staff to deal with people. The Co-operative department in the early stages was in charge of officers trained in the Revenue department. Officers of the Revenue department like Deputy Collectors and others were men of sufficient experience with intimate knowledge of the people. Later, the Co-operative department appointed its own staff by direct recruitment and took over young men as Deputy and Sub-Deputy Registrars with absolutely no training in the ordinary routine of administration. Revenue officers on the other hand who rub shoulders with people, in their usual course of work know exactly what the needs of the people are and how best they could be met. So long as the Co-operative department was run by such men they brought to bear upon their work a large amount of tact and experience which men under direct recruitment can hardly be able to do. This is the difficulty, Sir. If the department wants to have its own staff and be self-contained, by all means let it do so, but it should at the same time get its officers trained in the Revenue department or elsewhere. Is it not possible to depute these officers for a course of training before they are entrusted with the responsible work

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of Deputy Registrar. I have often found—and I am very sorry to say it—that there is want of sympathy in the case of direct recruits with very few exceptions. I find that the Deputy Registrars very often recommend liquidation. As President of a Central Co-operative Bank in the city, I have had the sad experience of seeing hundreds of cases everyday. Ask them to expedite collection, bring to their notice the overdues, point out the lack of adequate audit and the only solution they can offer is, 'liquidate.' That word has been on their lips so far as I have been able to see. The hurry to liquidate must be removed, and I appeal to the Hon. Member in charge of Co-operation to discourage as much as possible this tendency to liquidate. Liquidation must be exceptional and every effort must be made to avoid it. Liquidation reflects considerable discredit on the department. If the societies had been carefully registered in the beginning, I do not see why we should be in a hurry to liquidate them later on.

"One other point which I would like to bring to the notice of the Hon. Minister is the interference on the part of the Co-operative department in some of the well-established industries or concerns. For instance, I would quote the Madras City Milk Supply Co-operative Society. What is the justification that we can advance with reference to the establishment of this milk supply society? Madras had for several years past been supplied with milk by a large number of professional milkmen. No milkman worth his salt would neglect to pour some water into his milk. I am told that in Calcutta there are a number of water-taps where notice boards are put up advising milkmen coming from the suburbs 'take this water.' This is true in order to prevent milkmen from pouring unwholesome water from somewhere. (Laughter.) That shows at any rate that the Calcutta municipal council has recognized the time-honoured practice of milkmen mixing water in milk. Be that as it may, we know there is a particular class of people in Madras who are engaged in the profession of milk supply and there has been no complaint that the milk that they hitherto supplied was not pure or wholesome. They maintain their stock at very heavy cost and try to meet the demand for fresh milk. There is a large number of hotels and restaurants which have sprung up in Madras, and which require large supplies of milk. If the normal supply is found wanting or insufficient, milk is brought from the suburban villages around Madras. Such being the case, where is the necessity for a co-operative milk supply society to come into existence? Here is a certain well-established industry or concern, which is the profession of a certain class or community of people. The Co-operative department by stepping in competition with these professional milkmen has not only produced discontent among them, but it has induced people to have recourse to malpractices. They are asked to deposit money and bid in open auction for the right of supply. After this is done, is it fair on the part of the Co-operative department to turn round and say to these people that they would undertake the supply? It means putting out of work a number of families whose sole profession is supply of milk, and who have invested a lot of money in the concern. Instead of going to other

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activities and other spheres of life to encourage co-operation, why should the department disturb and unbalance an established business of a section of the people? That is my point.

" I find, Sir, from a cursory perusal of the report of the Co-operative department that there are societies called ' better living societies.' The Co-operative department offers to teach people the art of better living. (Laughter.) The report says:

> ' In accordance with the instructions of Government, the Deputy Registrars have been asked to organize a few better-living societies in select centres in their districts. The objects are to reform bad customs prevalent among members, to prevent waste of money, to inculcate habits of thrift . . .'

Well and good. I quite welcome it. There are these new spheres and channels into which the activities of the department can be better directed than in taking over well-established businesses like milk supply.

" Then, Sir, I find that the rate of interest levied by the societies is not uniform. In some societies it is 6 per cent; in some 7 per cent and in some others as high as 9 per cent. I should very much like that the Government lay down a uniform rate of interest chargeable to all primary societies by the Financing banks. If there is one rate prevailing in Saidapet and another rate in Madras, it is not conducive to the satisfactory working of co-operative concerns. I would very much like that the rates, as far as possible, are standardized so that there may not be invidious distinctions between one centre and another.

" Lastly, Sir, I would very much like to draw the attention of the Government to the enormous arrears put down as overdues, in the case of several societies. I find from Appendix No. 3 to the last report of the Co-operative department that under long term loans there is a very heavy percentage of overdues, and in some societies it is so heavy that 90 per cent of the dues are overdue. Under interest, the overdues range from 50 to 86 per cent. Eighty-six per cent overdues under interest and 90 per cent under principal are, I believe, rather appalling. Some drastic action must be taken with a view to bringing down these enormous overdues in co-operative societies. Such overdues can never be dreamt of in the Revenue department. As a matter of fact, in no collecting department, such a high percentage as 90 per cent under principal and 86 per cent under interest will be tolerated. I do not think that any such department would allow its subordinates to rest or sleep until the percentage figure is reduced considerably. The departmental officers have got to take vigorous steps in the matter of overdues in co-operative societies, and they must be made to realize their responsibility in the matter of collection of overdue arrears. They should not be allowed to rest until and unless these enormous overdues are satisfactorily reduced. With these remarks, I hope the Hon. Minister will consider the points raised by me."

* Rao Sahib V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI :—" Mr. Deputy President, Sir, I have myself given notice of a cut motion to discuss the policy of

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the department. I cannot start my speech today without congratulating the Hon. Minister in charge of this department. It has been possible for him to bring several amending Acts. In the matter of reducing rural indebtedness there has been a regular chain of primary land mortgage banks which have been doing useful work. Sir, the rate of interest that is being charged to the various societies differs very much, as has been pointed out by my hon. Friend Mr. Appadurai Pillai. I find that for land mortgage banks the Government advance money at the rate of 5 per cent, while the borrowers are charged at the rate of 6 per cent. The rate of interest charged in co-operative building societies has now been reduced to 5 per cent. But there are so many borrowers who have taken loans prior to the introduction of this 5 per cent rate. The societies were previously being charged at 6½ and 7 per cent, and the members got the money at 7½ or 8 per cent. I think the time has come when this distinction must go away, and I also appealed to the Hon. Minister last year that where loans had been taken last year and some few years back, they must be brought on the same level as the borrowers at present, because most members feel that the distinction is made as they have taken loans during the commencement of the operations of the building societies. Moreover, in these days of depression, every member that has taken a loan for building purposes feels the hardship, and it is a legitimate claim that these old members of the building societies should be given a fair chance of a reduced rate.

" Sir, as regards the supersession and liquidation of societies, I think the Government has to proceed cautiously. In the report for 1934–35 that has been given to us, on page 7 it is stated:

'The existing arrears in societies are the cumulative result partly of past mistakes, e.g., reckless lending, benami loans, etc., and partly of the present agricultural depression and the process of recovery of overdues has, therefore, been slow.'

It is not entirely due to the management of the present societies that they have been brought to this state of great accumulation of arrears. It is partly due to past management, and partly due to the want of control of these societies by the supervising authorities. If they had checked the accounts at the earlier stages and found out the mistakes, I do not think it would have been necessary to liquidate so many societies at present. Moreover, Sir, the Government say on page 5 of the report:

'The point is that the non-member agents take strong action against defaulters without regard to local considerations and this arrangement is getting popular in some of the districts.'

I think it is not a true state of affairs. Of course there are responsible co-operators and irresponsible co-operators. Those who have understood co-operation in the real sense see that members do not fall very much into arrears, while others without considering anything else follow the bare by-laws of the societies and bring the society into liquidation. I know as a matter of fact that in my own district of Nilgiris it has been so. It is not that a society cannot do more by way of collecting arrears from members themselves.

5 "*It is really casting a slur on the good work that has been done* by the non-official agencies throughout. So I would appeal to the Hon. Minister to see that the societies are not superseded at the whims and fancies of some of the staff. In one portion of the report, it has been stated 'There is a growing appreciation by co-operators of the execution work done by the department' I may point out that delay in arbitration and execution causes loss to the societies. I know of an instance where the time taken to bring a property to auction was something like two years. The result of such delays is that the owner loses interest in his property and the value of the property also goes low. So I would appeal to the Hon. Minister that he does something to expedite arbitration and also execution.

"One other point I would like to stress. At present they are doing something in the rural areas and also urban areas. But there is a very big field for co-operative activities among agricultural labourers. The labourer, or pannayal as he is called, is under chronic indebtedness to his landlord. The Hon. Minister, coming from Madura and a very big landlord himself, knows the plight of the labourer. If he owes a certain amount to the landlord, his son and grandson, who are also labourers, are slaves to the landlord. It is here I wish that something is done by the Co-operative department, to relieve the agricultural labourer from his past debts, and to make him a free man. To this extent, I am sure the Hon. Minister will do something.

"Before closing I must say a word about the Acting Registrar of Co-operative Societies. I think, Sir, the Hon. Minister has done well in appointing to this post a gentleman who has been in the department for so many years, who knows every phase of the Co-operative department's work and who has got a very great sympathy towards the depressed classes. In this respect I would appreciate the Hon. Minister's action in choosing Mr. Giriappa."

* Diwan Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"Mr. President, Sir, I am sorry Mr. Appadurai Pillai is not here to hear my reply to the remarks he made about the purpose for which the co-operative societies should be started. So what I have got to say I will reserve until the end when probably he will be here. So I will start off with one or two matters about which recently there has been a lot of discussion in the co-operative field and about which Government have seemed to have passed certain orders which do not satisfy the co-operative public. There is one important matter in which recently Government activity was shown not so much by any order passed by them but by *the provision they have made in the budget—I am referring to the* important question of the expansion of the land mortgage banks. Sir, the policy of this Government has been, for the last two or three years at least, to help the agriculturist through the land mortgage banks and bring into existence at least one bank for each taluk in the province. They wanted to have at least 10 societies to be registered afresh every year. Sir, this year we naturally expected that the necessary provision would be made for the expansion of the work, but to our great surprise

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and disappointment, no such provision has been made; and from what enquiries we could make we are told that the Governmeut is trying their experiment of giving loans directly under the recent amendment to the Agriculturists' Loans Act. They are spending some money in that direction already, and they do not want to commit themselves to further expenditure by way of appointment of sub-deputy registrars for work in the land mortgage banks.

" Sir, the other day when the question of adding to the guarantee given by the Madras Government for the issue of debentures came before this Council, I explained how the system is being worked. Then I told the House that each loan is first scrutinized by the society itself. Two of the directors and a vakil appointed by the society go into the valuation and the title respectively. Then, Sir, the Government agency comes in. The sub-deputy registrar goes and personally sees the field, goes through the records and satisfies himself that the title is good and the valuation that has been made by the directors is also proper valuation. It is only then that the papers are sent up to the deputy registrar and through him to the Central Land Mortgage Bank. This is a matter in which the interest of the society is concerned no doubt; but at the same time on account of the guarantee given by the Madras Government they are also interested in the proper discharge of duties by these societies and these officers of Government. So they have made it a rule that for every five societies started in the province there would be at least a sub-deputy registrar to look after the affairs, to go and personally investigate the loan applications and also go through the records of each application. That was the practice. In that way it has been going on. You know what the opinion of the House is in the matter. Everywhere there have been complaints that the expansion is too slow in every district. Complaints have been heard that either no societies have been started in particular districts from which hon. Members are coming or that the number of societies started in those districts are not sufficient. There have been loud complaints about that. Also Sir, in these times of distress unless these land mortgage banks go to the help of the ryot, very many estates are bound to be sold through the courts, with the result that the landholder becomes a landless labourer and the land itself passes into the hands of absentee landlord creditor. That is the state of things. Anyway, Sir, we were of opinion that the Government would pursue a forward policy in the matter, especially when the Bill for which I was responsible has been passed and all the help Government can give is necessary for giving a backing to the working of that Bill and the debt-conciliation boards that are going to come into existence. It is a great pity that at this juncture the Government have thought fit to stop any expansion in this field of land mortgage banks. So I want the Hon. Minister to tell us what is going to be the future of these banks. Is he going to stick to his old idea of expansion, of giving a bank for each taluk in the province as far as possible and to allow at least ten new banks to be started every year, or is he going

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to take shelter under this problematic action of the Revenue department and say, on account of the expenditure involved in that experiment he is not going to have any more expansion? This is a thing I want the Hon. Minister to deeply think over and give me an answer for. There is another matter about which also there has been a lot of talk and a lot of pious wishes—I am talking about marketing. Everywhere we have been hearing that it is not enough to have credit movements. We ought to help the ryot to get a little more for his produce than he has been getting hitherto, and the Government should set about organizing sale societies or trading societies or marketing societies, by whatever name they may be called. It was thought that by these means the ryots will be enabled to get more than what they are getting. So far as the actual achievement in this matter is concerned, I am bound to say it is very little. Except five or six societies in the whole province, I do not think the others are working satisfactorily. Even with reference to these five or six societies, I cannot say, Sir, that all the facilities that can be given have been given. Not only that. There are a number of articles produced by the agriculturist for which there is no local market. I shall only refer to vegetables, fruits, eggs and things like that, which probably the agriculturist can produce in large quantities if there was a good market for them.

" Sir, in the present plight of the agriculturist, these subsidiary means of income will be of great help to his family, even if it is a matter of getting a rupee a week. It will mean a substantial amount to the poor family. Take bananas for instance. If there is not a proper market they will be sold at very low prices, whereas in Madras there is a good market for them. Also on account of the fact that there is not a proper market, people are forced to sell their goods then and there. I will give one example. Potatoes can be kept in the hills, probably for two or even three months. But once they are brought into the plains they have to be sold at once. So long as nothing is done for keeping them on the hills for some time there is no remedy but to have them sold then and there."

* The DEPUTY PRESIDENT:—" The hon. Member may continue his speech after lunch."

The House then adjourned for lunch.

After lunch (3 p.m.).

The House reassembled after lunch with the Deputy President in the Chair.

* Diwan Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGAM CHETTIYAR:—" I was referring Sir, to the position of potatoes and their marketing. I was saying that on account of the lack of facilities for this trade, the producers are suffering great loss. They are being forced practically to sell the produce within a week or two of their gathering it for whatever it may fetch even though the price in the market at Madras and Madura and other places may be much higher. So, it has been proposed, Sir, that

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for the purpose of dealing with potatoes and produce like that and all the perishable articles including fruits and eggs, a sort of arrangement can be made by organizing a provincial society and opening sales depots in important centres. It was only a few days back, last Monday to be accurate, that by the kindness of the Joint Registrar of Co-operative Societies, a conference was held in his office of all those interested in loan and sales societies. The unanimous opinion of the conference was that it was high time that a provincial organization like that was started. They also said, Sir, that from the beginning of the next official year, some such organization should be brought into existence. Sir, an organization like that means some sort of expenditure in the beginning and some risk which, under the circumstances of our country, has to be borne by the Government. Sir, at least for a couple of years, until the society becomes self-supporting, the Government will have to come to the help of the society and meet the expenditure. After all, the expenditure on this score is not going to be very high. It may cost probably Rs. 5,000 or Rs. 6,000 a year. If this help is given, all the perishable produce in the province such as bananas, pomegranates, the vegetables, eggs, honey and so on, can be dealt with in those important centres. This expenditure of Rs. 5,000 or so is not a very large expenditure when we consider the interests likely to be helped by this means. So I request the Hon. Minister to see that, after so many years of our appealing to him and to the Government and after he has got this unanimous recommendation of all the loan and sales societies and of all the deputy registrars that were called into that conference, of both officials and non-officials, at least now some steps are taken to bring this society into existence from the beginning of the next official year.

" Sir, another question which is connected with these marketing facilities is the question of warehouses. Many of these loan and sales societies are not able to function because there are no warehouses in which they can store the produce that is brought to them. Sir, these loan and sales societies are doing double work. On the one hand they are financing the producers and on the other hand they are helping the ryots to hold over the produce for a better market. That is one of the objects of the loan and sales societies. If the produce has to be kept over for some time, the producers would have to be given financial help on the security of the produce. This can be given only on condition that the produce is brought to the warehouse, otherwise it will not be possible to give financial help. It is only when such help is given the ryot would be able to wait for a better market, and when that better market is available, marketing facilities have to be given also. Most of the loan societies working in this presidency are working more to render this financial help than to supply the marketing facilities. So, I again desire to impress upon the Hon. Minister the need for generous help in the construction of these godowns, not only by these loan and sales societies, but also by other agencies, because, the agricultural products are financed not only by sales and loan societies but also by central banks and in some cases even by primary societies.

When we have to lend money on the security of the produce, warehouses become a necessity. So, I would request the Hon. Minister to consider this question and accept the unanimous decision arrived at by the conference held last Monday that the Government should substantially help either by establishing godowns themselves or by enabling the primary societies, central banks and the loan and sales societies to build godowns. After all, Sir, the help they have promised to these bodies is only loan of money at $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. They are borrowing money from the Government of India at $3\frac{1}{4}$ per cent at the present moment and I do not think they are going to lose on this matter. It will be a matter of great help to the people if they make the money that is available useful to the people. There will be no loss involved in the matter. It is not a matter of giving a free grant. In cases where they think that it will pay, they may have their own godowns and charge a rent. In either way the Government would not be losers by agreeing to this arrangement. So I want the Government to go into the matter. I know that in the past they had been saying that some money would be available for the construction of godowns. They were prepared to lend at the cheap rate of $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent repayable in yearly instalments. Sir, there has been no response so far as this is concerned from the loan and sales societies for the simple reason that the cost was too much and for the reason that they were not in a position to find the portion they had to find themselves. Now the Government have removed some of the conditions of borrowing. Under the old scheme they were not prepared to grant funds if the societies concerned did not find a portion of the capital. Now that condition has been removed and the Government are prepared to lend the whole money that is necessary for putting up these warehouses. Sir, if this policy is pursued and if the Government generously come forward to help wherever help is needed, I am sure that a large number of warehouses would be established before long for the advantage of the ryots. Sir, in this connexion I wish also to say that the Government ought to look at the matter not only from the mere calculation of the particular item of business that is being carried on by a society or bank. For instance, in the case of land mortgage banks, they want the cost of the establishment to be recovered from the provincial bank and the primary banks. I have already said that this is a matter in which the Government themselves are interested, because they have guaranteed the repayment of the debentures. So, if they have got an establishment of their own to look into the applications, to look after the land mortgage banks, it is only to safeguard their own interests. Every creditor will do that. Well, there is the other aspect also. It is a general scheme of amelioration. For instance, when the Government want to carry out the provisions of the Agricultural Loans Act, they are employing a very costly machinery. I was told the other day that in a particular area the Government have lent about Rs. 20,000 or Rs. 30,000 but that the cost has already mounted up to more than Rs. 10,000. Well, Sir, we are not asking for any such large expenditure in the management of the land

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mortgage banks. We are asking only for the cost of the sub-deputy registrars and deputy registrars who are employed for the land mortgage banks. It should be borne by the Government. Sir, at the present moment we are not in a position to build up a reserve fund—and the Government know it—and have also some stand-by in case of bad debts.

"Such being the case, to come to us and say that we ought to bear 3
a portion of the cost of establishment is, it seems to me, not fair. P
After all, the general interests of the country and of the ryots require the establishment of these banks, and it is a duty which the Government owes to the country as a whole. Such being the case, the cost ought to be borne by the Government as a Government. It is an establishment which is given by the Government and maintained by the Government at its own cost. I hope the Hon. Minister who has been talking of the necessity for making funds available to the ryots at as cheap a rate as possible would also see to the necessity of building up this reserve, and see that the Finance Department waives its objection and that we are assured that at least for the next five years, we will not be asked to contribute towards this establishment. Otherwise it will be impossible to make progress with these banks. I may say, Sir, that Government have come forward to lend money at 5½ per cent to the borrower. It is only fair that the land mortgage banks should lend money to the borrower at the same rate. If we are to lend money to the borrower at 5½ per cent, it is impossible to find any amount for contributing towards the expenditure of the establishment which is now maintained by the Government. Even for that reason the Government should not ask us for any contribution towards the expenditure on establishments.

"Sir, then the question of establishment arises with reference to loans and sales societies also. For instance, if a Provincial Society is going to be started, at least for the first few years the cost of establishment will have to be borne by the Government. The help of non-credit inspectors wherever possible will have to be utilized for the purpose of forming agricultural societies to gather produce. The organization of a provincial society consists of two parts. One is we want a net work of societies to gather the products produced by the agriculturists and then we want an Agency in Madras and some other places to sell all these produce. The organization of these societies will have to be done by non-credit inspectors and such societies will have to gather all the agricultural produce and other perishable products. Then, all these products will have to be sent to Sales Depots. Then the question of managing the Sales Society comes in. I do not want to start with a very big scheme at first. All that I want is a sort of retail sale depot; a small shop is to be taken at Kothawalchavadi on a monthly rental of Rs. 30 or Rs. 40. We want probably a salesman who will be responsible for the money that is collected by way of sales and probably a sweeper and a peon. I do not want to start on a large scale. I would be quite satisfied with an establishment of that

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sort and that establishment is not going to cost very much. For starting and working a sales depot in Madras the utmost cost would be Rs. 4,000 or Rs. 5,000 a year and if we are going to have sales depots in other places also, each one of those depots would cost about Rs. 1,000 or Rs. 1,500. If we begin on a moderate scale, we will be able to know how far we have succeeded. If the scheme works successfully for two or three years, we will be able to get some income by way of commission and when we get that the help of the Government will not be needed. So, I ask the Hon. Minister to consider this matter. As I said, it is an urgent matter, about which we have been agitating for several years. So far as I am concerned, I made this proposal some ten years back. It is high time that Government instead of merely giving publicity to pious wishes took the matter on hand and really started this work.

"Then there is one other matter about which I should say a word. The other day a question was asked in this Council about the Provincial Handloom Weavers' Co-operative Society and it was asked what that society had done. I have also found some notice in the Press about it and they have been saying that it was started with high hopes and great things were expected of it, and so far, it has not fulfilled their expectations. Well, Sir, from my place here, I should tell the public through this Council that if they have got any such high hopes, they are not founded on a real appreciation of facts. All that has been done is this: (the plight of weavers who form something like three million people of this province is well known). They have not got regular employment. There is great competition with their looms both from Japan and England on the one side and also the Indian mill owners on the other, with the result that many paying lines in which they were previously engaged are now denied to them. Well, Sir, the little they are able to manufacture is not properly sold. The retail trader wants a large proportion of the remuneration that might be obtained with the result that the ordinary weaver does not get even enough for his maintenance. His economic position is such that unless he sells his products the very same day he would be hardly able to live. So he is obliged to sell for whatever it fetches. Since the legitimate due is denied to the weaver, he adopts some improper means for making up his loss. When 1 lb. of yarn is given to the weaver, he does not manufacture the whole of it but takes one-fourth of it and weaves only three-fourths for the ungraciousness or the unkindness of the merchant. The result is nobody trusts in weavers. What is given as 54 inches really comes to 48 inches or 46 inches. That is what we find. The net result is there is no trust. The retail merchant passes off quietly. He has got his goods. Of course he does not give any guarantee. He puts a slip on the goods and marks the price on it, sometimes 30 per cent or 40 per cent over the purchase price. Nobody checks these things. That is what happens. If the goods are sold the weaver has got a chance of getting more work. If they are not sold, the man who suffers is the weaver. Government has not taken the trouble to improve the situation at all. What was asked was

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that at least some lines of work should be protected in such a way that the hand-loom weaver might be enabled to have a monopoly of them. For instance when the Indo-Japanese negotiations were going on some of us suggested that up to twenty counts all kinds of weaving be allowed to the hand-loom weavers and the Indian mills be prohibited from manufacturing these goods and that also no foreign import of such goods should be allowed. Well, the Government of India thought over the matter and I suppose they consulted the mill-owners, but they would not agree. If I remember right, Mr. Mody, as he then was, was prepared to allow up to nine counts, the hand-loom weavers could not possibly agree to it. Government thought that they might give a portion of the cess that was collected from this industry to Provincial Governments by way of subventions for them to help the hand-loom weavers. Our share of that money is Rs. 59,500 and that is going to be given for five years. Is this huge problem going to be solved by Rs. 59,500 per year for five years? The Director of Industries who happened to be in office at that time was a clever man and he said 'though I realize that it is not possible to do anything practical out of this money, I would suggest that the Government bring into existence a Provincial Society with a large capital, and this sum of Rs. 59,500 could be used for starting such a society and working it for the first five years. Let the share capital come and with that share capital the sum of Rs. 59,500 which the Government are giving can be added. The Government will not be responsible for doing anything more than merely help to start a Provincial Society.' Well, he thought that in that way the responsibility of the Government could be shifted from them to a Provincial Society. Some of us were asked whether we were willing to join the directorate, but we were not told what the scheme was or what the by-laws were. We were asked to give a lump sum for share money and we agreed and we got in as we thought we could help the undertaking in that way. But what do we find now? Instead of a large capital we have got Rs. 13,000 paid as share capital to the Weavers' Society. With Rs. 13,000 what are you going to do? Already the hand-loom weavers in our Presidency number about three millions and we cannot certainly do much with this amount. We ask the Government what exactly they are going to do. I have been pressing the necessity for starting an emporium for these weavers. I believe two years ago when I moved this subject, the Government agreed with my view and said they would do something in the matter. But nothing has been done. We thought we could have some help from the merchants. That help too was not forthcoming. We have come to the conclusion that we should start an emporium on the same old lines, but the question arises who is going to bear the risk?

" All the capital we have got is Rs. 13,500 and that Rs. 13,500 will 3-30 p.m.
not go a long way to cover the risk of a big affair like this. I asked the Government whether they could not come to the help of the society by agreeing to bear the loss, if any, in the working of the emporium and also by contributing to the expenditure of the emporium for some

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years at least until we know exactly where we stand and until we come to a conclusion whether a scheme like that will work or not. I am yet to get a reply to that question, but from what I gather from the Hon. Minister he seems to think that the finances of this Province would not allow of any help with reference to this matter. But without any such help it will not be possible to do much. That is the position of affairs. We have guaranteed the supply of raw materials to some twenty societies. It has already come to Rs. 26,000 and the capital at our disposal is only Rs. 13 500. It is impossible to have any further expansion of our work unless some help is forthcoming from the Government or a large number of shares are taken up by the public. Of course the public are nervous in a matter like this; they are not sure whether it is going to pay or not. Thus affairs have come to a stalemate or checkmate. So it is for the Government to think over their responsibility in the matter and not merely stop with saying. 'All that we can spare for you is Rs. 59.500 which has been given to us by the Government of India.' I submit, Sir, the Local Government also have a responsibility in the matter. In what way are they going to discharge that responsibility, is the question which the Hon. Minister has to answer.

"Well, Sir. I have taken a lot of time and I do not think it is fair for me to detain the House long, but I want to refer to only one question that was raised by Mr. Appadurai Pillai. He said: It is not fair. when professional milkmen already exist, that a co-operative society should be formed for taking over the business. He specially referred to the case of the milk-supply society. But, Sir, the idea is that for the purpose of safeguarding the interests of the poor man we want that a co-operative society should be formed. We want that the producers should form themselves into a co-operative society in order that the middleman may be eliminated. But what the hon. Member said was, when there was a middleman to take the responsibility why should we form a society? But he forgets that the very object of co-operation all through is to eliminate the middleman and make it possible for the producer to get all the profit that is available. That is the idea of co-operation. On the other hand his argument comes to this: 'Wherever there is a profit, do not try to organize the producers and form them into a society so that they may get the profits for themselves: but wherever there is a loss and there is no person prepared to undertake the risk, you better form a society and let it go to ruin.' That seems to be the drift of his argument and I do not think it can be accepted."

Mr. T. S. Ramaswami Ayyar:—"Mr. Deputy President, Sir, the hon. Member from Coimbatore, I thought, was a good co-operator and would co-operate with the Council by making a short speech, but he has made a long speech and forced his successors, to use a co-operative term, to subject themselves to the process of consolidation and rectification. Therefore, I think, hon. Members who have to speak after him will have to be very brief. I do not propose to take up much of the time of the Council for this reason.

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"Sir, much criticism has been levelled against the present condition of co-operation in this Presidency. I think it is due to the fact that after a period of expansion in the co-operative movement a period of rectification had necessarily to come as in all other spheres of life. But this coincided with a period of depression and that is why the trouble has come in the Co-operative department and is felt more acutely here than in any other department. At the same time, Sir, as much criticism has been levelled against the way in which liquidation has taken place in the department, I desire to suggest to the Government that though there should be careful supervision with regard to the working of the societies Government should take a more gentle attitude with regard to liquidation. I know, Sir, that they are taking such an attitude, but at the same time, I feel that taking into consideration the period of depression through which we are passing, greater sympathy has to be shown to societies which though they are really defaulters, would, if a helping hand be given, be able to come round.

"With regard to credit societies in the city and in the bigger towns, I desire to make one suggestion. Sir, facilities should be given for opening what are called pawn shops. What happens now in the case of the poorer people, the labourers among whom much business is done is this. These poorer people pawn their small belongings with a money-lender and take money. It is there that much difficulty is felt. It is said that large amounts are deducted by way of interest and that the poor man is not even able to know his accounts with the money-lender. I therefore suggest for the serious consideration of the Government that they should give facilities for the opening of credit societies which will work as pawn shops for the poor. I think, Sir, that will go a long way in helping the formation of societies among labourers.

"Sir, with regard to agricultural societies I think there should be expansion of the work of sales societies in rural areas. We all realize the difficulties about marketing and if we want to give marketing facilities we should open warehouses when alone these sales societies could work well.

"Another sphere of activity for the Co-operative department which I have mentioned a number of times during the debates in this House is the formation of co-operative societies for the working of cottage industries. Sir, in that sphere co-operation will certainly play a very great part. When cheap electricity is available in this Presidency it should be possible for the Co-operative department and the Industries department to come together and arrange for the opening of co-operative societies for the improvement of cottage industries."

* The Hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan:—"Sir, the other day the hon. the lady Member represening the City of Madras made a reference to the condition of the co-operative movement in this Presidency. For want of time I could not reply to her the other day and so I propose to reply to her as briefly as possible to-day. The hon. the lady Member said: 'What about co-operative credit societies? Co-operative credit societies have, I am sorry to say, not proved very successful because most of

them are in a very bad state of finance if not absolutely insolvent.' Sir, if it was made as a matter of mere statement of the position I may say I am in agreement with her to some extent, but if it was made as a condemnation of either the Minister in charge of the department or the Department of Co-operation, I am afraid I must disagree with what the lady Member said."

Mrs. A. Rukmani Lakshmipathi:—" The successful working of the co-operative credit societies is said to be one of the achievements of the Justice Party."

* The Hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan:—" May I point out to the hon. the lady Member that the co-operative movement is a non-official movement and as such no party can claim any credit for that. And if any credit can be taken either by me or by the department it can only be because we went to the rescue of the movement at a time when help and rescue was necessary. The department is responsible for the registration of societies, the auditing of societies and the liquidation of societies. But it ought to be the aim and object of those non-officials who are engaged in the movement to make it a success. As far as I am concerned and as far as the department is concerned, we have given the non-officials an absolutely free hand; we do not interfere with them. Speaking on my own behalf I try to see that no party politics enters into the movement. If the department had to interfere in the movement it was because there was a popular demand, a demand from the public and from the co-operators that there should be more and more of guidance and help from the Government. Anyhow let me say that the picture which the hon. the lady Member has painted is a gloomy picture, but really it is not so gloomy as she has painted it. I think if she could she might devote some of her time in helping the movement especially in the direction of organizing societies for women which are a great necessity in this Presidency. As a matter of fact, on the recommendation of the Registrar we have sanctioned the appointment of two lady organizers to start societies both in South Kanara and Malabar. If the attempt there proves successful we hope to extend it to other places. In the mean time I would appeal to the two hon. lady Members to devote some of their attention, to help this movement.

" I now come to the criticism of my friend, Mr. Jagannatham. His speech, a long one, was full of insinuations against the departmental officers, but at the end he congratulated both the Registrar and the Joint Registrar. Anyhow I shall be glad to look into the matter and forward a copy of his speech to the Registrar so that he may look into the details and see whether his representations are based on facts; and if so take the necessary action to remove the defects pointed out by the hon. Member.

" One point he raised was that the Government had no policy as regards the liquidation of societies. The policy of the Government is this. If non-officials would not manage the societies properly but make a mess of it, then the department steps in and liquidates the societies. My hon. Friend, Mr. Ramaswami Ayyar, stated that we should give ample opportunities to the societies to rectify matters,

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before they are liquidated. I may inform him that both the Government and the department give ample opportunities to co-operators to rectify matters before resorting to the extreme step of liquidation. To use the phrase of my hon. Friend, Mr. Narayanan Nambiyar, the Government give as long a rope as possible to non-officials in the matter of managing these co-operative societies. I may say this, that the department has been liquidating societies in large numbers for some time past. It was in pursuance of the policy of consolidation, and rectification of the existing societies. If we could possibly avoid liquidation of these societies, we will be only too glad to do so. In this connexion I should like to just inform the House that I have asked the Registrar to direct Mr. Cooke who is Joint Additional Registrar to visit various parts of the Presidency and pick some societies at random—especially those societies which were liquidated—to examine whether that step was taken as a last resort or whether liquidation was done by the departmental officers as a matter of course. As soon as I get a report from Mr. Cooke, I shall examine the question carefully.

"It was said by Mr. Jagannatham that the auditing done by the department is not good and not so effective as audit by private bodies. The Government contemplated handing over audit to private auditors; but there was a good deal of opposition to it; the department gave ample opportunities to co-operators to give their considered opinion as to whether audit should be continued to be done by the department or whether it should be handed over to non-officials. After considering the matter carefully, we accepted the majority view, that the audit should continue to be under the control of the department. I do not claim any perfection, especially in a matter like this; we wish to have the co-operation of those who are engaged in the management of these societies; without it, it will not be possible to detect frauds. If you want to detect frauds, you want the co-operation, honest co-operation of those who are engaged in the movement.

"My hon. friend referred to rule No. 20. The department is gradually enforcing that rule; the question is engaging the attention of the department; ere long I hope the rule will be enforced fully. These are some of the main points mentioned by Mr. Jagannatham. I am perfectly willing to look into the other details referred to by him. I shall be too glad to meet him or any other co-operator at any time and they may make their representations to me or to the Registrar of Co-operative Societies, so that we can rectify matters.

"Then I come to my hon. Friend, Diwan Bahadur Appadurai Pillai; he condemned the department for having registered societies in a great hurry and for liquidating them in a greater hurry. There was a time when it was considered to be the fashion of the day to register societies without caring for a moment whether the right sort of men came in to work the societies. My hon. Friend, Diwan Bahadur Appadurai Pillai, objects to the expression 'want of human material.' After all, this is a popular movement, a movement which is entirely in the hands of the public non-officials. We want the right sort of men to work the movement. If they are not forthcoming and

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if the department has to do this work, the movement would become a part of the activities of the department instead of its being in the hands of non-officials. What we want is that the right sort of men should come forward to help the movement. If they are not forthcoming, the movement will have to become a part of the department of the Government.

"Then my hon. friend condemned the policy of sending away officers belonging to the Revenue Department employed in the Co-operative department and of recruiting dircetly more and more gazetted officers to this department. To some extent I am responsible for this policy. The Revenue Department lend their officers for two or three years; they have to revert by the time they learn their work and when they can contribute something substantial to the department. Thus all the experience they gain is lost to the department. So, more at my instance, the department was made self-contained. Though, at the present moment, a number of gazetted officers are young men, I have to say that the majority of them have been and are doing good work. I am quite sure that they will justify the action of the Government in having encouraged young men. As far as the Revenue Department is concerned, there are many officers in the department and they have got more facilities to get into touch with the people, whereas in this department the district officers being limited in number do not have the same facilities as the former have. There is a charge that directly recruited men are wanting in sympathy and tact. There might be exceptions here and there but as I said, the majority of the officers of this department are doing good work.

"He complained against the interference of the department in business matters and especially quoted the example of the Milk Supply Union. My friend is probably unaware of the fact, that because of this union, the Government have been able to save a lot of money and the patients in the hospitals have been getting pure milk. If my friend would go into the history of the milk-supply to the various hospitals in the city for the last fifteen years or so, he would see what savings this union has effected. This union has reduced the cost of milk supplied to various hospitals by practically 50 per cent. If to-day I am encouraging the milk-supply unions it is with a view to continue the benefit to the patients who require pure milk and incidentally to help the public also to get a purer supply. I hope in a year or two this union will be in a position to stand on its own legs without any further help from the Government. Then it might supply the whole city of Madras with pure milk, butter, ghee and so on. Though it might be said that the Government incur some loss by supporting the union, we must take into consideration the amount of money which this union has saved for the Government for the last six or seven years. If that is taken into consideration, the little help that is given to the union no one will grudge. I do not see why my friend should object to this kind of work being done by the department . . ."

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Diwan Bahadur A. APPADURAI PILLAI:—" On a matter of personal explanation, Sir. I welcome the proposal; as I said, it is in the right direction. I object to interference by the Co-operative department. That was my point."

* The Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—" Sir, I am glad to see that my hon. Friend has no objection to this but only to the interference of the department. I may say that without the help of the department this object cannot be achieved.

" About the rate of interest, he says that it is not uniform throughout the Presidency. The rates vary in the different banks. I cannot reply to that point offhand now, but I shall look into the matter. I believe that the rate of interest in the different central banks is more or less the same. Anyhow I shall look into the matter later on.

" Another point, Sir. It was stated that overdues have mounted up a great deal and that the department has not taken any drastic action in the matter. If proper men are forthcoming, they would be able to collect money and there would be no overdues. The hon. Member quoted the example of the Revenue Department and the revenue collections. There is no analogy between the Revenue Department and the co-operative movement. This movement is meant to help the 4 P.M.
people to tide over difficulties; it is not intended to collect arrears to the last penny irrespective of the people being in a position to pay the money or not. All that I can say is that attempts are made to collect the arrears. As a matter of fact, the present depression has made it more difficult for the department to hurry up the collections. Anyhow, Sir, the policy of the department is to aim at consolidation and rectification and we are trying to give time to those people, in the matter of repayment of loans, in cases where the grant of extension of time will facilitate collections.

" Now, Sir, I come to my hon. Friend, Mr. Ramalingam Chettiyar. He said that the Government, by some of their recent orders, have displeased the public to a very great extent. One of them seems to be the refusal on the part of the Government to open more land mortgage banks and the absence of provision for it in the budget for the next year. Sir, when this question was taken up, it was pointed out to me that the Revenue Department are giving loans under the Agriculturists' Loans Act and that they require an additional staff for the purpose. Secondly, the method of giving loans through the Revenue Department is much simpler and people can get the money direct quicker than in the case of land mortgage banks. It was therefore suggested that, as a temporary measure, the opening of ten banks might be given up for the next year. So, with great reluctance I agreed to this suggestion. If people for whose benefit these land mortgage banks are meant can get the same benefit and that in a much shorter time, I do not think there need be any objection to deferring the opening of these banks for a year. Anyway, I shall be watching the experiment in which both my Hon. Colleagues, the Hon. the Revenue Member and the Hon. the Finance Member are equally interested;

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and if we find that the ryots do not get the facilities which we expect them to do, the question of opening more land mortgage banks during the next year will be considered.

"Sir, my friend talked about the marketing facilities and the help that could be given, especially in the way of finance to the various loan and sale societies for constructing godowns. I may tell my hon. Friend that the question of providing godown facilities is receiving the consideration of Government. Only recently, they passed orders offering loans to three societies at very low rates of interest, the loans to be repaid in easy yearly instalments. If we find other societies coming forward with similar requests, and if the Registrar reports that those societies deserve help, I shall be only too glad to consider the cases sympathetically.

"Then my friend talked about the provincial organization, for the disposal of articles such as potatoes, bananas, etc., and he referred to the conference which met recently and unanimously made certain recommendations. The Government have not received any information so far; and as soon as the recommendations of that conference come up, I can assure my friend that the Government will bestow their earnest consideration on them.

"Sir, Mr. Ranganatha Mudaliyar reminds me that my time is up. I wanted to refer to other suggestions of my hon. Friend, Diwan Bahadur Ramalingam Chettiyar. I shall look into them very carefully as there is no time for me to reply to them. Before I close my speech, there is one other thing referred to by my friend, Mr. T. S. Ramaswami Ayyar, which I wish to deal with. He said that some credit societies should be registered, which should take the place of pawn shops, and thus give facilities to poor people. Sir, I am quite willing to consider this suggestion in consultation with the Registrar. The other point that he referred to is: he wants more sale societies. In regard to registration of sale societies, the trouble is that the moment a society is formed, it wants the help of an inspector, junior or senior, of the department. It is not possible to give that assistance, because it will increase the expenditure of the department by way of additional staff. If people themselves can organize sale societies in a district and if a number of such societies are organized, one inspector can be put in charge of them all; but it is not possible for Government to lend the services of one officer to each of such societies. Anyhow, Sir, as I said, I shall be only too glad to go into each one of the many useful suggestions that have been made by hon. Members."

* The Deputy President:—"Is the hon. Member pressing his motion?"

Mr. H. M. Jagannatham:—"Mr. Deputy President, Sir, even though I have placed bare facts before this hon. House, the Hon. Minister thinks that my speech contains many insinuations and implications . . ."

Mr. V. P. Narayanan Nambiyar:—"On a point of order, Sir. Is a speech relevant at this stage of the demand?"

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Mr. H. M. JAGANNATHAM :—" In view of the reply and the assurance given by the Hon. Minister, I crave the leave of the House to withdraw my cut motion."

The cut motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

The Demand was then put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XXIV—CINCHONA—RESERVED.

* The Hon. Sir K. V. REDDI NAYUDU :—" Mr. Deputy President, Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I beg to move—

'*That the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rupees 4,14,800 under Demand XXIV—Cinchona—Reserved.*' "

* Mr. K. KOTI REDDI :—" Mr. Deputy President, Sir, I move—

'*That the allotment of Rs. 8,400 for Cinchona—Reserved—Direction—Pay of Officers and Establishments be reduced by Rs. 100.*'

Sir, I am doing it with a view to know the policy of the Government in this department—whether the department is intended to make a profit, or whether the department is to see that quinine is produced as cheaply as possible so as to be within the means of the poorest man in the province. Sir, I am not one of those who think that Government need not take any precautions for economizing in this department; but at the same time I feel that the Government have not economized in this department. Firstly, I believe there are vast possibilities of increasing the acreage now under cinchona plantation. We are now importing a large quantity of cinchona bark from Bengal, and if that is not sufficient, we have to import quinine from Java. When we have possibilities of developing cinchona plantations in our own province, at least to the extent of making this province self-sufficient in regard to the supply of quinine, I do not see any reason why steps should not be taken immediately in that direction. No doubt Government have made some attempts, and during the last year and the year before last, some new plantations to the extent of about 200 acres have come into existence. But that is not enough. From the report for the year 1934–35, it is clear that there are vast possibilities of increasing the acreage still further. When I see that this department has made some profit during the past year, I begin to think that it is not taking the risk of extending the plantations lest there should be losses. Having regard to the fact that the price of quinine has got to be reduced if it is to be made available to all people, the best method of getting that result is to extend the area of these plantations, so that the overhead charges may be reduced. This department engages two highly paid people—one Deputy Director of Agriculture and a Manufacturing Chemist. Both these posts may be combined into one. The manufacturing chemist with, I believe, the assistance of a man trained in the Agricultural College, should suffice. Anyway, one direction in which the department ought to move is to see that the overhead charges are cut down.

" Secondly, I do not know if I will be in order, if I try to impress on the Hon. Member the necessity for supplying quinine free throughout the whole Presidency. It is a question with which the Hon. Minister for Public Health is concerned, but I do not think that I will be in order if I draw the attention of the Hon. the Law Member who is in charge of this department, which is responsible for the supply of the necessary quantity of quinine in the province, to the fact that the toll of deaths from malaria is very great.

15 m. " I know that in the villages a number of people are suffering from malaria and they are not in a position to buy good quinine and I know also that in the villages if quinine is available to the people free they take it, but if you demand money from them, they are not likely to take it. It is not only the rich but also the poor people that are suffering from malaria and some system should be devised by which the poor people in the rural parts of the Presidency should be supplied with free quinine and not only in a few places as is done at the present time. With these few words, and as we are anxious to come to the next demand, I move my motion, Sir."

* *Rao Sahib* V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—" Mr. *Deputy President*, Sir, in rising to support the cut motion moved by my hon. Friend, Mr. Koti Reddi, I would like to say a few words in connexion with the policy adopted by the Government as far as this Department of Cinchona is concerned. Sir, a few years back it was pointed out to the Government that the cinchona plantation could be made a cottage industry in the Nilgiris. From a perusal of the Administration Report of the department that has been presented to this House by the Government there is ample evidence to show that the Government have not taken up that suggestion and acted upon that. To start with, I would refer to the report which says that during the year arrangements were concluded for the purchase of about two lakhs of pounds of cinchona bark from the Government cinchona plantations in Bengal. I may here point out, Sir, that the Nilgiris contains a vast acreage of land quite suitable for the plantation of cinchona. As a matter of fact, I know that the land lying very near Kilkundah was able to produce the best kind of bark with the best quinine content. The Government, not caring for this consideration, opened large tracts of land for cinchona plantation on the Anamalais; but year after year, it has been a failure there, first on account of a certain disease known as die back in the plantations and afterwards in the nurseries themselves. The report also says that during the period since this plantation was inaugurated in 1925 there has been a steady increase in rainfall culminating in 215 inches in 1934–35. It is to be hoped that this will be the peak and that lesser rains will be recorded in future. The report further says that this amount of rainfall will not be suitable for cinchona plantation. From the records I find that in Naduvattam where the department has got a greater acreage, the total rainfall during the period was only 125 inches; while in the Doddabetta plantations it is only

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59·9 inches on an average per year. It is also stated that the Naduvattam plantations would give a better yield of bark than the plantations in the Anamalais. Moreover, Sir, in the Nilgiris due to various causes, the ryots are not getting as much money as they require for their crops and so there is a great deal of unemployment. If the Government could only work these plantations on a cottage industry basis and guarantee the price for the bark produced, I think they will be able to get all their supplies of bark from the Nilgiris itself.

"Moreover, Sir, I find from the report that Government intend to write off 94·64 acres—on page 3 of the report. I do not know whether it is the planted acreage that is going to be written off; or is it on account of the failure of the plantations that they intend writing off this acreage. I would also like to know what is the amount that is involved in this write-off.

"Going through the report, Sir, I find that there is a very small demand for quinine from British Indian States and it also forecasts that there will be a lesser demand in the years to come. In view of this, I do not know whether it will be advisable for the Government to conclude an agreement with the Bengal Government for the purchase of such a big lot of cinchona bark. The report also says that the cinchona factory will not be working throughout the year as they are going to have certain renewals. These are things which I hope the Hon. the Law Member will take into account and also see whether the Government cannot take the ryots and also the planters in the Nilgiris into their confidence and come to an understanding with them so that cinchona could be easily grown in the Nilgiris itself. Further, as the factory itself is in the Nilgiris, it will avoid transporting charges if the plantations are also on the Nilgiris; and in which case they need not bring large quantities of bark from either the Anamalais or Bengal paying transport charges.

"Finally, Sir, a lot of amount has been sunk on the Anamalai plantation and it is also seen from the report that there has also been a lot of failure of the plants due to the frequent visits of bisons and elephants. If the plants got from the Naduvattam nurseries begin to grow, they are subjected to the ravages of these wild animals and it is therefore high time that Government took all possible precautions so that the plantations might not go to waste and then later on written off.

"In this connexion I would like to suggest to the Hon. the Law Member if it is not out of place, that if he invites some of the planters and others to a conference when he happens to visit Ooty next, and comes to some understanding with them, I am sure we will be able to get the required cinchona bark produced in the Nilgiris itself at a cheaper rate. With these remarks I request the Hon. the Law Member to reconsider the policy adopted by the Government in regard to this matter."

* The DEPUTY PRESIDENT:—"As there is a desire on the part of many hon. Members that Demand No. XXV should be taken up and discussed to-day, may I request hon. Members to take only two minutes each?"

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Mr. T. S. Ramaswami Ayyar :—" Mr. Deputy President, live in a time of paradoxes and one of such paradoxes is that in a province where admittedly cinchona could be grown at a public health statistics show a large number of malaria cases. stated that only in two provinces in India, namely, Bengal and cinchona can be grown at a profit; and we have got our plantat Naduvattam and other places. But still, our statistics are not en ing so far as malaria is concerned. I would like to get an answe the Government how they propose to solve this paradox.

" Again, Sir, one suggestion that I want to make is this. Government say that under the circumstances cinchona growing of risk, *it is necessary that the acid test of the profit* and loss and the balance sheet should be employed before the public fu invested and though it is stated that we should consider the g of cinchona as a commercial proposition and though commercial a are not kept, yet I think, Sir, there is the question of humanity should also be considered. Many people in the rural areas are n to get their supply and this is proved by the existence of malar large scale. I think the experience of Ceylon during the la months should serve as an example for us to be prepared emergency.

" Another suggestion I want to make is this. It is admitt the preparation of totaquina has now been recognized as an drug in the British Pharmacopœia and it is becoming popular. totaquina should be put by the department on the market. For time it was not placed on the market though I know supplies wer to hospitals. I think this matter was referred to the Public Ac Committee also. I think that if this totaquina is placed on the n it will go a long way to make the concern also profitable for G ment."

* The Hon. Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu :—" Mr. President, S first point raised was that we should increase the area under ci cultivation for the production of bark. I think that is a point was raised by my hon. Friend Mr. Koti Reddi. Then my hon. from the Nilgiris would have the Government help the cottage tries, evidently meaning thereby that some lands should be gi the inhabitants of that district for being cultivated by them, or i have their own lands, to help them to cultivate them and wh bark is ready to *purchase it at a reasonable price*. Sir, on both points, so far as the main question of policy is concerned, the G ment are at one with the hon. Members. That our factory at vattam requires a larger quantity of the bark, larger than what present produced *in our province, is admitted and that accounts* f fact that some more bark has to be purchased from outside and m from Bengal. Certainly, Sir, Government will be very pleased the bark that is required for this factory could be produced in ou province and I assure hon. Members that the services of the depar

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will always be available to give the necessary advice and necessary help in producing this plant and procuring this bark and to pay them the market value of the bark without any reduction in the price.

"Sir, this question of extension, because we have got large areas in our province where this plant could be grown and bark could be produced, is a matter which has come under the purview of the Royal Commission on Agriculture and this is what the Commission have stated: 'Investigations into the possibility of extending the area and into the problems of development and manufacture are in our opinion matters for the Government of India and not for the provincial Governments.' Sir, this policy has been accepted both by this Government and the Government of India and I am perfectly certain that the Government of India were alive to the needs of assisting the malaria-stricken populations by placing at their disposal as much quinine as is needed. But the trouble comes in this way, that so far as this Government are concerned they will have to treat this production of quinine on a commercial basis and so long as it can be worked satisfactorily without loss and with reasonable profit, this Government will be willing and ready to produce it. One criticism levelled is that perhaps the cost of production is high. That, Sir, I must say is correct. If it is said that it is not given as cheaply as it ought to be, I am one with the hon. Members. Government have reduced the price quite recently from three-fourths to half an anna, the original price at which it was sold. Now, Sir, on this question we are perfectly willing to help any private owners to extend their cultivation. There was a suggestion for instance that it might be cultivated in the Shevaroys. Government themselves have tried to increase the area in the Anamalais as was pointed out by my friend from the Nilgiris. It is true that the production or the growth in the Anamalais has not been as satisfactory as it has been in the Nilgiris. But yet we are in the beginning. The experiment has been tried and portions have been given up at this stage because it has not been growing satisfactorily. That is what is called writing off of the area. As regards the other point raised, it was said that a Deputy Director and a Manufacturing Chemist are both employed. Surely hon. Members will have to consider that a factory has to be worked and three plantations have to be looked after. It may be that in the profession of law a solicitor and an advocate can be combined and one can do the work of the solicitor and the advocate but in a special subject like this where expert knowledge is necessary to expect the agriculturist who knows how to grow the plant and the chemist who produces the chemical product, to be combined into one will be almost a physical and natural impossibility. After all this was retained by us after a close examination by the Retrenchment Committee and there is not a single thing in excess of what is required. My friend Mr. V. I. Muniswami Pillai wanted that this should be made a cottage industry. If he means to say that the Government should help the people who have got small plots of land to grow their own small plantations, certainly Government will be perfectly willing to give their help and experience. If he still wants that the Government must

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purchase these, Government will be too willing because Government need not go to Bengal. To that extent Government will be prepared to help it as a cottage industry. Mr. President, the other points I think I have fairly covered and I do not propose to speak at length. I will promise hon. Members to look into all the suggestions that have been made."

The cut motion was by leave withdrawn.

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

V.—ANNOUNCEMENT *RE* APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMEN OF CERTAIN SELECT COMMITTEES.

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—" Before I proceed to the next demand I wish to announce that I appoint Rao Sahib N. Siva Raj as Chairman of the Select Committee on the Bill further to amend the Madras Estates Land Act, 1908, and to amend the Madras Estates Land (Amendment) Act, 1934, for certain purposes (Bill No. 11 of 1936).

" I also appoint Mr. A. B. Shetty as Chairman of the Select Committee on the Bill further to amend the Madras City Police Act, 1888, and the Madras City Police (Amendment) Act, 1907, for certain purposes (Bill No. 8 of 1936) and the Bill further to amend the Madras District Police Act, 1859, for certain purposes (Bill No. 9 of 1936)."

IV.—BUDGET FOR 1936-37—VOTING OF DEMANDS FOR GRANTS—*cont.*

DEMAND XXV—INDUSTRIES—TRANSFERRED

* The Hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—" On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor I move—

'*That the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rupees* 11,64,700 *under Demand XXV—Industries—Transferred.*' "

* Mr. K. KOTI REDDI:—" I move—

'*To reduce the allotment of Rs.* 27,300 *for Industries—Transferred—Direction—Pay of Officers by Rs.* 100.'

" Although I know, Sir, that for any criticism that I may have to offer—and they are many—in connexion with this department the chances of the Hon. Minister replying to the remarks are none yet. I cannot but express that disappointment that an important subject like industries should generally go without discussion and much less reply. Even if the Hon. Minister has not a chance of reply I hope the criticisms will be borne in mind by the Minister and during the time that he will be in charge of the department he will try what little bit he can though I believe it is very little, instead of pleading financial limitations in season and out of season. I however leave the question for his careful consideration. Sir, it is a very important matter. There are two countries in the world which are competing with each other for the first place, viz., China and India, and the place they are competing for is poverty. If to-day there are any countries which are worth mentioning so far as population and extent goes,

whose prosperity according to the civilized standard of life is on the lowest level, they are China and India. Probably it may be said India is in the second rank and not in the first. There are certain things in common between these countries, the vast extent and the immense population and the poverty. To-day, Sir, more than a third of the population of the world lives in these two countries and in India alone one-sixth of the population of the world are living. When one looks at the census figures for the last three or four decades and studies them, one is generally struck by the fact that the number of people who depend upon agriculture is increasing every decade. When three decades ago it was something like 70 per cent, to-day more than 80 per cent of the population is depending upon agriculture. The result is that many a man in this land is suffering from want of food. It is said that sixty millions are starving for want of two meals a day. I do not know how many are not getting even one meal a day. It is a pity that in a country which is full of resources both industrial and agricultural, in a country which is furnished with all the nature's bounties, in a country which can boast of fertile land, rivers and abundant rain and more than all an industrious population, people should suffer for want of food. It seems to be an anomaly. So long ago as 1880 when there was a very great famine in the Ceded districts and other districts also, when the Famine Commission was enquiring into the conditions of the people, when they were enquiring into the remedies to be suggested to the future Governments as to how to prevent such famines, the Commission mainly consisting of Europeans, have suggested the necessity for the people to pursue diversity of occupations. They said that the number of people that depended upon agriculture were increasing every day and unless some of this population was made to turn its attention away from agriculture and take to other occupations the possibility of minimising these famines is very little."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—" May I interrupt the hon. Member and suggest that he is making the position of the Hon. Minister easier because he will have nothing to reply to the preface to the speech of the hon. Member. If the hon. Member were to point out certain defects in the department, the Hon. Minister would be able to reply. If he likes, he might give a few minutes to other hon. Members."

* Mr. K. KOTI REDDI:—" Sir, I wanted to point out to the Hon. Minister the heavy responsibility that is thrown on him by the statement made by no less an authority than the Famine Commission to the effect that people in this Presidency should take to more industrial occupations. What is it that this Government has done? During the last fifteen years, a good deal could have been done in this direction. I must say it has done next to nothing. Immense possibilities of industrializing this country were demonstrated during the time of the Great War. Before the war it was considered that this country was capable of producing raw materials only.

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5 a. " But, when the Great War came and when it was realized that it was necessary to get supplies of steel rails, ammunitions and things of that kind, the Europeans turned to this country to see if some of those things could not be produced here. Then it was shown how with the help of the Government it was possible to produce goods which were hitherto considered to be not possible to be produced in this country. The *Fiscal* Commission has also laid down that where it is considered necessary to produce some manufactured goods in this country the Government should take interest and by means of subsidies, bounties and protective tariffs help the people to start industries. Only then industries will rise in this country. I may give here only one instance, namely, that of sugar. Manufacture of sugar was supposed to be not possible in this country and it was considered to be so very, very costly that it might not be possible to compete with other nations. But with the subsidy and protection afforded by the Government of India, so many sugar factories have come into existence and are working satisfactorily. I know that in the course of a few years it may be possible for us, without even tariff duties of the Government of India to compete in the world markets. What I want to impress upon the Hon. Minister for Industries is that he must try his best to industrialize this Presidency and see that more and more people take to industrial occupations instead of merely depending on agriculture. There are a number of people who believe that it is not advantageous to develop in this country what are called heavy industries like iron and steel, manufacture of motor-cars and things of that kind, and that we should confine ourselves more or less to small scale industries and cottage industries. I am one of those who believe that you cannot put up an *artificial barrier between large scale industries and small scale industries.* This country with its vast resources is capable of producing many of the manufactured goods that are now imported. We can develop industries on a fairly large scale where the latest scientific developments are utilized for manufacturing goods as cheaply as possible. I also believe that it is absolutely essential to produce machine-made goods in as large a quantity as possible and at as cheap a price as possible. If to-day nations are fighting amongst each other, if to-day the peace of the world is disturbed at every moment, it is because there are some countries like India and China which are a standing temptation to manufacturing countries, so that their manufactured goods may be dumped into these countries. From that political point of view also, in order to bring about an ordered peaceful condition in *this world, it is absolutely necessary that this country*, which is inhabited by one-sixth of the world's total population, is made self-sufficient so far as industrial goods are concerned. Otherwise, we will ever remain a standing temptation to western nations to exploit this country as a producer of raw materials. Sir, what are the possibilities of industrializing this country? The possibilities seem to be immense. I have been urging in this Council on the Hon. the Minister for Industries that where cheap electricity can be produced, it should be possible to start some industry, say in a place like Mettur. At any

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rate, the paper-making industry can be started at Mettur, and I am told that there are immense possibilities of developing such an industry if only Government took some steps to help it or better take the initiative itself. There is any amount of bamboo available somewhere near Salem, and by means of the cheap electricity that can be had from Mettur, all the bamboo can be utilized in this paper-making industry. My hon. Friends, the Members of the European Group, may say that they are not in favour of the State undertaking these enterprises. I am one of those who believe that it is in the interests of this country that Government itself should take the initiative in developing industries. If however these are left to private capitalists, there is bound to be the conflict of interest between the capitalist and labour, between the rich capitalist and the poor labourer. In spite of the good intentions on the part of a number of people in highly industrialized countries to see that wealth is more equitably distributed, to see that better conditions are brought about in the relations between capital and labour, they have not succeeded on account of vested intersets already created. Except in the matter of textile industries, we are in this country in a better position than the rest of the world, as no private capitalists have so far developed industries of any importance. If the State undertakes the development of industries, no large vested interests will be created and the State will become a strong force for bringing about better equalization of wealth in the country. The Government can at least take up those industries which are not at present developed by any private enterprise. We think that the problem of rich and poor also will thereby be easily solved. The Hon. the Law Member has already shown to this House the possibilities of the State making a profit by the development of industries. For example, if the generation of electricity was handed over to private persons, the amount of profit that we are now making would have gone to those private parties, and if at any future time we wanted to take it over, vested interests would be up against us. On the other hand, by the Government developing it, the profit will go towards the revenues of this Province. That is so far as large scale industries are concerned.

"There is always in any country, much more so in this country, great possibility of developing small scale industries. If to-day Japan and Germany are in the forefront of countries producing manufactured goods, it is because 40 per cent of the manufactured goods are coming from cottage industries, using mechanical power. I do not see why we in this country should not divert the attention of the villagers from agriculture to some other occupation, and why the Hon. Minister for Industries should not do his little bit to help the cottage industries and the small scale industries with the help of the Hon. the Law Member who must supply cheap electricity for all these purposes, so that the villagers may be engaged during the offtime in producing goods which are now being supplied by Japan and other countries. That being the case, may I draw once more the attention of the Hon. Minister for Industries to what in our own country the State of Mysore has done."

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Mr. V. P. Narayanan Nambiyar:—" On a point of information, Sir, may I know whether a Member who is unable to finish his speech to-day can continue the speech in August? (*Laughter*)."

* Mr. K. Koti Reddi:—" If a small State like Mysore can support and develop industries, why should the Government of this Province fight shy of itself undertaking some industries. We do not want that it should be left entirely to private persons to develop industries. Mysore is now thinking of establishing a cement factory. Already they have contributed a large amount of capital for the textile industries, for silk and cotton factories, and they have also contributed a large capital for the sugar industry. You boast of efficiency and expert knowledge for everything. Then why not undertake to develop industries and benefit the people by working them at a profit. The soap factory which was started at Calicut has clearly shown that if sufficient attention is devoted to these things it is just possible for the Government to make a profit and also benefit the people. If that is so in the case of the soap factory, why should you not undertake several other large scale industries which have not been taken up by the people? If you do so, you can get some revenue for running the Government without further taxation. The help rendered by the Government under the State Aid to Industries Act is after all disappointing, and why is it? Because the Government merely tried to get their pound of flesh from the people who took loans and not because the Government really tried to help the industries. I do not want to go much more into details just at present. I hope the Government will try to move in the direction of encouraging industries, if not start them itself."

* Sir William Wright:—" Mr. President, Sir, my Friend, Mr. K. Koti Reddi, has not given me very much time to speak on this subject. I think in the course of his speech he indicated that it was against the policy of the group we represent to support any Government policy of increasing industries in this Presidency. I would like to assure Mr. Koti Reddi that it is far from the case. I know perfectly well that any expression of opinion in regard to industry from these benches is regarded with suspicion in certain parts of the House. We are credited or discredited, whichever you like, with having the idea that an extention of industries in this Province is inimical to our own interests. Actually of course the greater the prosperity and the greater the industrial development of Southern India, the more existing commercial organizations will be benefited. On the other hand, we do represent important industrial organizations and we have a very large experience of how industries should be run. I claim, therefore, that it is our duty to place this experience at the disposal of the House.

" I am not speaking in any spirit of opposition to the activities of the Kerala Soap Institute, but I do consider this Government undertaking might be developed on different lines to those employed at present. The accounts from the year 1925 show a net profit for ten years, if the Government subsidy is taken into account, amounting to Rs. 8,686. This, an average of under Rs. 1,000 a year, is a very poor

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return on the capital expenditure, particularly when it is realized that more than half the profit was made in one year—1932–33. This large profit was followed by a loss made in the following year, and a still greater loss last year, with sales steadily dropping during a period when there has been a gradual improvement in business conditions; which shows that as a commercial institution pure and simple the soap institute cannot be regarded as a success. The explanation of this is, I think, very largely that those employed in running this factory have also many other important duties in teaching pupils and research work. Nobody knows better than those engaged in industry how difficult it is to start a new industry—how many unforeseen difficulties crop up, and what intense concentration is required to make a new undertaking a success. I think this dissipation of energy amongst those responsible for the management of the Kerala Soap Institute probably accounts for the fact that after all these years, as a commercial undertaking, it has been unable to establish itself as a success.

" On Thursday of last week (March 19th) I asked a question in this House as to the number of students who had been trained in the institute, and how many of them were engaged in the soap industry. The substance of the reply which I received was that from and including 1927–28, 88 students were trained by the institute, and 54 of these were known to be at present engaged in the industry.

" Now I would like to suggest to this House that having trained these students and having set them up in business, it is only fair that Government should give to the concerns owned and managed by them all Government Orders for soap, and not press Governnent department to give their institute these orders. This would really encourage the expansion of the industry, which is hindered when Government compete with their own students from their own subsidized factory. They would then, I believe, be doing much more to establish a soap industry in Southern India than by the manufacture of soap on a commercial scale themselves.

" I do not mean this to suggest that the institute should be abolished. I know that it is doing very valuable research work and that it is proposed to extend this research in several directions, but I believe that this research work could be far more efficiently carried out if those responsible for the institute were relieved of all the anxieties of conducting manufacture on a commercial scale as well.

" I would like therefore to commend to Government the suggestion I have made to help their own students to develop the soap industry that Government has created and to limit their own activities to useful research and demonstration work, giving full facility to their own students now engaged in the industry to have full access to and to take advantage of such work as and when satisfactory results have been obtained."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—" Mr. Koti Reddi, I hope, is withdrawing his motion."

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Mr. K. Koti Reddi:—" There is no other go."

The cut motion was by leave withdrawn.

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

As it was 5 p.m., the rest of the Demands were put from the Chair.

VI.—DEMANDS PASSED UNDER RULE 29 (3).

DEMAND XXVI—FISHERIES—TRANSFERRED.

* The Hon. the President:—" The question is—

' *that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs.* 5,75,890 *under Demand XXVI—Fisheries—Transferred* '."

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XXVII—MISCELLANEOUS DEPARTMENTS—RESERVED.

* The Hon. the President:—" The question is—

' *that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs.* 8,64,800 *under Demand XXVII—Miscellaneous Departments—Reserved* '."

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XXVIII—MISCELLANEOUS DEPARTMENTS—TRANSFERRED.

* The Hon. the President:—" The question is—

' *that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rupees* 12,42,900 *under Demand XXVIII—Miscellaneous Departments—Transferred* '."

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XXIX—CIVIL WORKS—RESERVED AND TRANSFERRED.

* The Hon. the President:—" The question is—

' *that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rupees* 57,35,800 *under Demand XXIX—Civil Works—Reserved and Transferred* '."

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XXX—CIVIL WORKS—ESTABLISHMENT AND TOOLS AND PLANT—TRANSFERRED.

* The Hon. the President:—" The question is—

' *that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rupees* 31,15,100 *under Demand XXX—Civil Works—Establishment and Tools and Plant—Transferred* '."

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XXXI—CIVIL WORKS—GRANTS-IN-AID—TRANSFERRED.

The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—" The question is—

' *that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rupees* 85,77,800 *under Demand XXXI—Civil Works—Grants-in-aid —Transferred* '."

'he Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XXXII—FAMINE RELIEF—RESERVED.

The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—" The question is—

' *that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs.* 1,00,000 *under Demand XXXII—Famine Relief—Reserved* '."

'he Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XXXIII—PENSIONS—RESERVED.

The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—" The question is—

' *that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rupees* 70,33,900 *under Demand XXXIII—Pensions—Reserved* '."

'he Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XXXIV—STATIONERY AND PRINTING—RESERVED AND TRANSFERRED.

The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—" The question is—

' *that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rupees* 17,70,700 *under Demand XXXIV—Stationery and Printing—Reserved and Transferred* '."

he Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XXXV—MISCELLANEOUS—RESERVED AND TRANSFERRED.

The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—" The question is—

' *that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs.* 3,72,900 *under Demand XXXV—Miscellaneous—Reserved and Transferred* '."

'he Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XXXVI—AGENCY TRACTS—RESERVED.

The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—" The question is—

' *that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs.* 7,91,900 *under Demand XXXVI—Agency Tracts—Reserved* '."

'he Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XXXVII—EXPENDITURE IN ENGLAND OTHER THAN ON STORES—RESERVED AND TRANSFERRED.

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The question is—

' *that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs.* 3,36,800 *under Demand XXXVII—Expenditure in England other than on Stores—Reserved and Transferred* '."

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XXXVIII—REFUNDS OF REVENUE—RESERVED AND TRANSFERRED.

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The question is—

' *that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs.* 6,72,800 *under Demand XXXVIII—Refunds of Revenue—Reserved and Transferred* '."

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

B.—Expenditure on Debt Heads.

DEMAND XXXIX—LOANS AND ADVANCES—RESERVED.

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The question is—

' *that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rupees* 54,37,000 *under Demand XXXIX—Loans and Advances—Reserved* '."

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

VII.—PROROGATION OF THE COUNCIL BY MESSAGE FROM HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR.

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I have to communicate to the House the following message which I have received from His Excellency the Governor :—

PROROGATION.

" In pursuance of sub-section (2) of section 72-B of the Government of India Act, I, John Francis Ashley, Lord Erskine, Governor of Madras, do hereby prorogue the Madras Legislative Council at the conclusion of the business of its session on the 27th March 1936."

The House is prorogued."

VIII.—PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE OF THE HOUSE.

* a 1. *With reference to the answer to a supplementary question to question No.* 59, *answered on the* 6*th August* 1935, *a U.O. Note of the Local Self-Government Department, dated the* 18*th March* 1936 *giving a statement regarding the absorption of ex-taluk board servants under Local Bodies as it was on the* 1*st January* 1936.

b 2. *With reference to the answer to question No.* 627 *answered on the* 30*th January* 1936, *a U.O. Note of the Public Works and Labour Department, dated the* 21*st March* 1936, *showing statistics relating to electric energy sold for agricultural pumping.*

D. K. V. RAGHAVA VARMA,
Acting Secretary to the Legislative Council.

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* Laid on the table of the House on the 26th March 1936.

a Printed as Appendix XII at page 1101 infra.

b Printed as Appendix XIII on page 1103 infra.

[27th March 1936

APPENDIX I.

[*Vide* answer to question No. 1059 asked by Mr. M. Devadasan at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 27th March 1936, page 1025 *supra*.]

Statement showing transfers to and from Secretariat.

Name of Secretariat Department.	From other departments.	To Secretariat.	From the Secretariat.	To other departments.
Chief	....	....	....	....
Revenue	Two clerks from Collectorates.	Upper division clerks.	....	....
Finance	....	....	One upper division clerk.	Deputy Collector.
Law	....	....	....	....
Public Works and Labour.	....	....	One upper division clerk.	Deputy Tahsildar in Trichinopoly district.
Development ..	One clerk, Local Fund Audit Department.	Upper division clerk.	Do.	Stationary Sub-Magistrate in Tanjore district.
....	One typist, Mental Hospital.	Steno-typist ..	....	....
Local Self-Government.	Two clerks in the office of the Director of Public Health.	Upper division clerks.	One upper division clerk.	Stationary Sub-Magistrate, Trichinopoly district.
....	One clerk, office of the Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards.	Upper division clerk.	....	....
...	One clerk, office of the Director of Public Instruction	Do.	....	....
....	One clerk, Surgeon-General's office.	Do.	....	....
....	Two clerks, office of the Deputy Inspector-General of Police, Railways and C.I.D.	Lower division clerks.	....	....
....	One clerk, office of the Director of Veterinary Services.	Lower division clerk.	....	....
....	One clerk, Chief Engineer's office, Public Works Department.	Do.	....	....
....	One clerk, Madras Medical College.	Do.	....	....

APPENDIX II.

[Vide answer to question No. 1062 asked by Mr. A. B. Shetty at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 27th March 1936, page 1027 supra.]

Statement showing the normal working balance of district boards in 1934–35.

Name of district board.	Normal working balance.	Actual balance under general funds.		
	RS.	RS.	RS.	
Anantapur	13,144	98,730		
Arcot, North ..	18,852	1,690		
Arcot, South ..	21,816	11,434		
Bellary	11,048	23,066		
Chingleput	15,781	1,71,374		
Chittoor	13,893	2,20,914		
Coimbatore	37,510	— 4,15,057		
Cuddapah	10,380	62,872		
Ganjam	25,758	5,44,706		
Godavari, East ..	29,371	2,43,677		
Godavari, West ..	25,819	— 212		
Guntur	25 213	1,41,020		
Kanara, South ..	15,576	93,378		
Kistna	31,997	4,62,712		
Kurnool	13,474	44,971		
Madura	23,822	27,666		
Malabar	29,665	70,743		
Nellore	17,961	68,217		
Nilgiris	6,029	— 8,179		
Ramnad	24,829	3,70,301		
Salem	22,435	3,21,453		
* Tanjore, East ..	8,696	3,79,975	18,500	Minimum balance according to the budget for 1936–37.
* Tanjore, West ..	9,884	3,35,219	24,100	
Tinnevelly	22,138	80,016		
Trichinopoly ..	21,243	1,98,791		
Vizagapatam ..	24,060	2,47,471		

* The boards came into being on 17th December 1934 only, hence the small minimum balance.

[27th March 1936

APPENDIX III.

[Vide answer to question No. 1063 asked by Mr. A. B. Shetty at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 27th March 1936, page 1028 supra.]

Statement showing the financial position of district boards in 1935–36 *disclosed by their budgets for that year.*

Name of District Board.	Ordinary receipts.	Ordinary charges.	Contribution from ordinary to capital.	Closing balance.	Minimum balance.
	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
Anantapur	4,27,810	4,62,120	20,000	44,431	12,240
*Arcot, North— (1) Vellore .. .. (2) Tiruvannamalai ..	7,06,570	6,72,600	35,930	7,080	19,467
Arcot, South	8,60,290	8,01,420	59,900	21,520	22,738
Bellary	4,20,220	4,11,060	19,010	4,630	11,450
†Chingleput	6,60,950	6,51,380	53,100	1,27,840	17,686
Chittoor	5,75,770	5,75,760	1,48,140	17,930	14,800
†Coimbatore	13,43,320	13,19,130	2,09,100	— 2,08,325	36,651
Cuddapah	3,65,329	3,56,078	..	84,978	9,909
*Ganjam .. .. Chicacole	9,07,180	9,09,420	1,16,790	39,837	24,216
Godavari, East ..	9,91,615	8,34,335	2,06,080	36,868	27,545
†Godavari, West ..	9,27,350	7,58,660	1,42,620	25,860	26,127
*Guntur .. .. Ongole	9,18,030	8,79,860	61,790	31,105	24,899
Kanara, South ..	6,52,660	6,81,130	7,270	17,170	17,156
Kistna	11,33,070	8,69,960	3,50,220	31,550	30,518
Kurnool	5,23,340	4,85,810	37,050	15,870	13,685
Madura	10,04,620	10,79,720	80,150	— 1,27,584	26,052
† Malabar	11,52,540	11,92,880	1,17,290	— 86,890	30,893
Nellore	6,72,060	6,59,820	1,08,860	24,620	18,242
† Nilgiris	2,85,200	2,69,450	16,010	— 4,860	7,735
Ramnad	9,03,060	8,88,530	1,44,650	28,501	23,802
† Salem	8,32,460	8,21,300	1,66,470	2,05,630	23,710
† Tanjore, East ..	8,08,000	8,43,710	1,07,800	1,76,470	21,600
† Tanjore, West ..	9,34,200	8,24,340	2,77,150	2,14,590	24,915
† Tinnevelly	9,05,520	7,96,840	1,67,180	21,516	23,784
Trichinopoly ..	7,79,360	8,00,180	58,600	20,760	21,020
† Vizagapatam ..	4,40,750	4,59,940	40,790	16,980	11,883
† Bobbili	4,49,780	4,44,370	39,130	1,79,360	12,654

* Separate figures for bifurcated boards are not available.

† In these cases revised estimate figures for 1935–36 have been adopted.

27th March 1936]

APPENDIX IV.

[Vide answer to question No. 1071 asked by Mr. A. B. Shetty at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 27th March 1936, page 1032 supra.]

Statement showing the amount disbursed to the several district boards from the Road Development Fund.

Name of District Board.	Year.					
	1930–31.	1931–32.	1932–33.	1933–34.	1934–35.	1935–36 Budget provision.
	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
Anantapur	92,981	1,29,205	3,012	3,329	1,838	..
North Arcot ..	4,206	30,498	57,684	15,213	6,555	..
Vellore	..	..	..	..	..	1,70,000
South Arcot ..	3,04,999	2,15,958	42,297	44,390	..	..
Chittoor	40,000	62,972	62,790	3,000	..	..
Coimbatore.. ..	..	..	50,000	80,000	63,550	11,450
Godavari, West ..	1,30,000	1,12,164	..	..	..	..
Guntur	85,140	1,37,882	1,46,000	1,69,179	1,53,878	..
Ongole	..	..	..	..	..	22,000
Kistna	1,04,606	2,49,999	97,748	2 000	..	..
Kurnool	..	9,663	31,829	28,931	27,577	46,996
Madura	..	..	..	..	..	60,000
Malabar	1,31,365	1,61,299	1,24,228	1,03,700	75,773	2,81,000
Nellore	1,05,071	2,00,000	3,22,791	1,62,356	1,36,160	..
Nilgiris, The ..	.	..	..	66,707	74,603	33,293
Trichinopoly ..	42,788	49,850	17,316	..	..	..
Vizagapatam ..	1,90,000	49,000	2,74,138	2,04,245	73,164	1,00,000
Bobbili	..	..	..	..	..	23,474

APPENDIX V.

[Vide answer to question No. 1072 asked by Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 27th March 1936, page 1033 supra.]

LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENT.

Note on the general question of priority to be given to the various items recommended in the Report of the Special Engineer for Road Development.

So far as district schemes are concerned the Special Engineer has arranged these in order of preference under each heading.

It remains for Government to decide the preference to be given as between districts and as between the different headings.

It is not possible to evolve any single mathematical formula by which this preference can be decided. The following general principles suggest themselves:—

(1) Preference should be given to the various heads of the report in accordance with their utility to the Presidency as a whole. As the proposals originated from the necessity to co-ordinate

railway and road transport and in view of the imperative need of increasing traffic by rail special consideration should be given to works which will increase such traffic.

(2) The dominant consideration should be the development of the Province as a whole and money should be distributed equitably throughout all areas. For the purpose of this distribution the local fund district should ordinarily be taken as the unit of distribution. Equal distribution between all districts is obviously impossible but where large amounts have been allotted in one district the claims of others less favourably treated should be recognized. The construction of an important work on an inter-district or trunk road should not however prejudice unduly the claims of the district in which it is constructed to grants for the development of its internal communications. In exceptional cases the claims of a part of a district which differs in important respects from the rest of the district would be recognized.

(3) Preference should be given to works for which plans and estimates are ready and approved or nearing completion. This is not a purely haphazard criterion as the fact that the estimate is ready or nearly ready indicates that the need for the work has been felt and that the local body is ready to start and has done everything possible to take up the work.

APPENDIX VI.

[Vide answer to question No. 1075 asked by Mr. Devadasan at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 27th March 1936, page 1035 supra.]

(1)

Letter from the Collector of Tinnevelly, to the Secretary to Government Local Self-Government Department, dated the 13*th March* 1936, *L. Dis. No.* 1487/36.

[Depressed classes—Tinnevelly district—Koilpatti taluk—Vilathikulam village—Pathway—Question in the Legislative Council. *Reference.*—Government Memorandum No. 9996-1-C-1, L. & M., dated 9th March 1936.]

Perumal Kudumban, son of Rama Kudumban of Kasba Vilathikulam village, applied to me on behalf of himself and other Pallars of the village for the acquisition of a path to the burial-ground of the Adi-Dravidas from their quarters. I inspected the site on 14th July 1935 with the local Sub-Magistrate and the Sub-Inspector of Police and found that, the High Court having held that the Mudaliyar street belongs to individual Mudaliyars, the Nadars and Pallars should not be allowed to go along it and that an alternative path should be acquired

for the Nadars and the Pallars. The cost of acquisition of the land was estimated at Rs. 300. I considered that the proposal for the acquisition of a path at a cost of Rs. 300 could be included in the programme of works to be sent to the Commissioner of Labour, called for in his letter No. A-2-3323/35, dated the 6th/9th July 1935, and I have accordingly included it in the programme.

(2)

Letter from the President, Panchayat Board, Vilathikulam, to the Secretary to Government, Local Self-Government Department, dated the 16th March 1936, Ref. No. 57/36.

[Legislative Council question No. 1226—Tinnevelly district—Vilathikulam Panchayat—Obstruction to Adi-Dravidas by caste Hindus in the use of pathways leading to their quarters. *Reference.*—Government Memorandum No. 9996-1-C-1, L. & M., dated 9th March 1936.]

I beg to state that Mr. Athi Nattar, an Adi-Dravida, on behalf of Adi-Dravida community, presented a petition to this Board on 30th April 1935, complaining of obstruction on the part of caste Hindus, i.e., Mudaliyars by fencing the street in the use by the Adi-Dravidas of the pathway leading to their quarters with iron wires.

2. The street in question is shown to exist in the resurvey plan as a plan-marked path. The Board considered the matter very deeply. Though it was discussed that the panchayat could take action against the persons concerned, under section 159 (1) of the Madras Local Boards Act, the Board finally resolved to take steps to acquire the entire path for the use of the public, since the path in question was decided by the High Court of Madras as 'Private' consequent on a civil dispute between the Mudaliyars and Nadars about the right of way.

3. After such obstruction, there was no path for Adi-Dravidas to take processions in marriages and corpse to the burial-grounds, etc. Just before the fencing, the Mudaliyars objected to the taking of corpse to the burial-ground through the path in question, and the local Sub-Magistrate had to interfere and pass orders under section 144, Criminal Procedure Code.

4. The Board addressed the District Collector, Tinnevelly, on 15th May 1935, to make arrangements to acquire the pathway at *the cost of this Board* under section 66 of the Madras Local Boards Act.

5. Subsequently, on an urgent reference from the Deputy Tahsildar, Vilathikulam, under his letter No. A-1-812/35, dated 21st May 1935, regarding the obstruction of the public path by the Mudaliyar community, legal opinion was sought for from the Government Pleader, Koilpatti, about the High Court's decision and notices were issued under section 159 (1) of the Madras Local Boards Act to the persons concerned to remove the obstruction. The Mudaliyars objected to this notice through their advocate Mr. Sadhu Ganapati Pantulu of Tinnevelly Bar on 21st June 1935 that the street in question was their private in virtue of the High Court decree and that this Board should not interfere.

6. Pending further proceedings on the subject by this Board, reply was received from the District Collector, Tinnevelly, under L. Dis. No. 3484/35, dated 26th August 1935, to the effect that Rs. 300 will be included in the programme to be sent to the Commissioner of Labour for providing a path for Adi-Dravidas from their quarters to the burial-ground. Another Collector's reference No. D-1-138/35, dated 19th June 1935, through the Deputy Tahsildar, Vilathikulam, was received in this office on 8th September 1935 to the effect that "the streets in Vilathikulam are not in the list of maintained roads, they do not vest in the panchayat board. The encroachments have therefore to be dealt with by the Revenue Department."

7. Under the above circumstances, I beg to state that the Board dropped further proceedings on the matter.

APPENDIX VII.

[Vide answer to question No. 1076 asked by Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder at the meeting of the Legislative Council, held on the 27th March 1936, page 1036 supra.]

G.O. Ms. No. 297, L. & M., dated 24th January 1936.

Read—the following paper:—

From the Commissioner, Salem Municipality, dated the 6th December 1935, No. 334-L-C-35.

Order—Ms. No. 297, L. & M., dated 24*th January* 1936.

The Government observe that the financial position of the Salem Municipal Council is not satisfactory and they cannot therefore sanction the Council's proposal to reduce the rate of tax on bicycles from Rs. 2 to Re. 1 per half year with effect from the 1st April 1936.

(By order of the Government, Ministry of Local Self-Government)

T. B. RUSSELL,
Secretary to Government.

To the Commissioner, Salem Municipality, through the Chairman, Municipal Council.

APPENDIX VIII.

[Vide answer to question No. 1082 asked by Mr. A. B. Shetty, at the meeting of the Legislative Council, held on the 27th March 1936, page 1040 supra.]

ANNEXURE.

1932.—For details—vide paragraph 43 of the Public Health Administration Report for 1932.

1933.—Nil.

1934.—For details—vide paragraph 60 of the Public Health Administration Report for 1934.

1935—

Names of associations.	Grant sanctioned. RS.	A.	P.
1 Koumaragurukulam, Mannargudi, Tanjore district	49	8	0
2 Madras Hindu Good Templars' League, Madras	48	8	0
3 Sree Sujana Samajam, Anakapalle, Vizagapatam district	43	6	0
4 Servindia Rural Centre, Mayanur, Trichinopoly district	125	0	0
5 Pride of Hills, Lodge No. 14, I.O.G.T., Coonoor, The Nilgiris	18	0	0

APPENDIX IX.

[Vide answer to question No. 1083 asked by Mr. N. Halasyam Ayyar at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 27th March 1936, page 1041 supra.]

G.O. Ms. No. 13, Revenue, dated 6th January 1936.

The Board of Revenue has proposed that in order to improve the collection of land revenue in the South Arcot district, the existing limit of the amounts that should be collected in one instalment (viz., Re. 1) should, as an experimental measure for a period of one year, be raised to Rs. 5. The Government accept the proposal. The Board of Revenue is requested to instruct the Collector to give due notice of the change to the ryots, and to report in due course on the working of the temporary arrangement now sanctioned.

(By order of the Governor in Council)

H. R. UZIELLI,
Secretary to Government.

APPENDIX X.

[Vide answer to question No. 1086 asked by Mr. N. Halasyam Ayyar at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 27th March 1936, page 1044 supra.]

GOVERNMENT TECHNICAL EXAMINATIONS.

Number of candidates examined, number passed and percentage of passes from January 1933 to January 1936.

Subjects under Commerce.	Grade.	1933. Examined.	1933. Passed.	1933. Percentage.	1934. Examined.	1934. Passed.	1934. Percentage.	1935. Examined.	1935. Passed.	1935. Percentage.
Bookkeeping	Lower ..	610	232	38	765	293	38	609	133	22
	Higher ..	158	89	56	155	76	49	87	12	14
Theory and Practice of Commerce.	Lower ..	122	50	41	129	74	57	113	30	27
	Higher ..	37	13	35	40	18	45	34	9	27
Banking	Lower ..	307	73	24	421	98	23	384	105	27
	Higher ..	142	76	54	102	48	47	36	14	39
Commercial Geography	Lower ..	1	..	..	3	3	100	4	1	25
	Higher ..	16	7	44	16	10	63	9	5	55
Shorthand (English) ..	Lower ..	783	207	26	971	126	13	995	261	26
	Higher ..	166	14	8	204	40	20	213	24	11
Shorthand (Tamil) ..	Lower ..	..	..	..	1	1	100	1	..	..
	Higher ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
Shorthand (Malayalam).	Lower ..	12	8	67	13	6	46	59	32	54
	Higher ..	4	3	75	4	4	100	2	2	100

Typewriting.	Grade.	1933 Examined.	1933 Passed.	1933 Percentage.	1934 Examined.	1934 Passed.	1934 Percentage.	1935 Examined.	1935 Passed.	1935 Percentage.	1936 Examined.	1936 Passed.	1936 Percentage.
January	Lower ..	324	109	34	895	425	48	2,578	043	37	1,381	530	38
	Higer ..	134	46	34	157	45	29	200	64	32	171	55	32
April	Lower ..	1,472	566	38	1,823	1,054	58	1,869	419	22	..	..	..
	Higher ..	234	40	17	213	46	22	222	64	29	..	..	..
October	Lower ..	786	346	44	2,142	811	38	1,558	515	33	..	..	..
	Higher ..	193	91	47	204	84	41	157	77	49	..	..	..
July	Lower ..	713	158	22	1,196	553	46	1,047	411	39	..	..	..
	Higher ..	125	37	30	185	66	36	140	45	32	..	..	..

APPENDIX XI.

[Vide answer to question No. 1087 asked by Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 27th March 1936, page 1045 supra].

Details.	1930–31.	1931–32.	1932–33.	1933–34.	1934–35	1935–36.	1936–37 (budgeted).
	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
Pay of establishment ..	11,490	11,739	10,033	10,913	11,347	8,534	10,725
Contingencies	2,682	2,869	2,541	2,857	2,382	2,724	705
Stipends	23,249	15,188	9,619	9,273	9,556	7,168	9,500
Apparatus and materials ..	250	125	250	350	400	256	300
Other charges	332	157	98	101	161	280	135
Total ..	38,003	30,078	22,541	23,494	23,846	18,962	21,365

The figures for 1935–36 are approximate actuals anticipated for that year.

APPENDIX XII.

[Vide item VIII (1) at page 1091 supra.]

LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENT.

U.O. NOTE No. 3775-1, A-1, L. & M., DATED 18TH MARCH 1936.

COMMUNICATION TO THE COUNCIL.

With reference to the answer given to question No. 59 at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 6th August 1935, the Hon'ble the Minister for Local Self-Government was asked in a supplementary question whether the reports in regard to the absorption of ex-taluk board servants under local bodies will be placed on the table. The Hon'ble Minister stated that as soon as the reports called for from local bodies were received, they will be placed on the table. The appended statement which is a summary of the reports as on 1st January 1936 is laid on the table.

T. B. RUSSELL—17-3-36.

[Statement.

Statement.

Name of district board.	Number of ex-taluk board clerks in the waiting list of clerks issued by Government.	Number of ex-taluk board men in the waiting list who have been absorbed in permanent, temporary or officiating vacancies under District Board.	Panchayat Board.	Municipal Councils.	Number and name of ex-taluk board men in the waiting list who have not yet been absorbed anywhere.
1 Anantapur ..	6	6	..	..	....
2 Arcot, South ..	25	19	2	..	(1) S. Sankara Ayyar (dead). (2) K. S. Rajaram Reddi, removed from service for misconduct. (3) D. Ramaswami Ayyangar. (4) S. Kalyanasundaram Ayyar.
3 Bellary ..	5	5	..	..	....
4 Bobbili ..	7	6	1	..	....
5 Chingleput ..	14	5	5	2	One had retired and another remains to be absorbed.
6 Chittoor	8	6	1	..	(1) L. Ramu Nayudu.
7 Coimbatore ..	22	20	..	1	(1) V. Padmanabha Menon.
8 Cuddapah ..	9	8	..	..	(1) K. Veerayya.
9 Ganjam	21	21	..	..	....
10 Godavari, East ..	46	16	..	..	(1) M. Venkatapathi Raju. (2) P. Sreeramamurti. (3) B. Nagabhushanam. (4) A. V. Ramana. (5) P. Ranganaikulu. (6) R. Venkata Rao. (7) V. Siddayya. (8) V. Sreeramamurti. (9) V. Subba Rao. (10) Ch. V. Reddi. (11) G. Satyanarayana. (12) P. Venkateswara Rao. (13) D. Satyanarayana. (14) D. Kameswara Rao. (15) M. Appa Rao. (16) Md. Syed Rahiman. (17) G. Ramakrishnayya. (18) K. Tata Rao. (19) D. Kodandaramayya. (20) V. P rayya. (21) V. Ch. Venkataraju. (22) K. Venkanna. (23) K. Parthasarathi. (24) G. Lakshminarayana. (25) P. Sitharamayya. (26) Atchutha Ramayya. (27) M. Venkataramanayya. (28) Satyanarayana Sarma. (29) J. Narayanamurthi (dead). (30) K. V. Subba Rao (whereabouts not known).
11 Godavari, West.	Information called for not yet received.				
12 Guntur ..	16	14	1	..	(1) A. Venkayya (declined the appointment).
13 Kanara South.	11	8	..	2	(1) G. Gopinatha Rao (removed from the list).
14 Kistna ..	23	7	..	1	(1) Ch. Seshagiri Rao. (2) K. Kondala Rao. (3) D. Venkateswara Rao. (4) G. L. Perumallu. (5) B. V. Narasimha Rao. (6) D. V. Krishna Rao. (7) Y. Subba Rao. (8) B. Venkateswara Rao. (9) S. Gannayya. (10) M. Ramalingayya. (11) A. Raghava Rao. (12) K. Sitharamayya. (13) T. Appi Reddi. (14) T. Lakshmayya. (15) M. Venkateswara Rao.
15 Kurnool		6	..	..	One invalidated and three deleted from the list.
16 Madura ..	26	22	2	..	(1) N. Alagiriswami Gupta. (2) M. Masilamani Reddiar.
17 Malabar ..	27	25	..	1	(1) U. Krishnanunni Nayar.

Name of district board.	Number of ex-taluk board clerks in the waiting list of clerks issued by Government.	Number of ex-taluk board men in the waiting list who have been absorbed in permanent, temporary or officiating vacancies under			Number and name of ex-taluk board men in the waiting list who have not yet been absorbed anywhere.
		District Board.	Panchayat Board.	Municipal Councils.	
18 Nellore ..	28	18	..	..	(1) P. Subbarayadu. (2) K. Viswanadham. (3) P. Subramanyam. (4) S. Jagennadham. (5) P. Sreeramulu (6) A. S Kameswara Rao. (7) A. Adises iah. (8) C. S. Nagarajan. (9) P. Venkateswarlu. (10) A. C. Hanumantha Rao.
19 Ongole ..	13	11	2	..	....
20 Ramnad ..	31	24	6	1	....
21 Salem	19	19	..	..	....
22 Tanjore, East.	17	16	1	..	....
23 Do. West.	19	15	1	1	(1) V. Ponnuswami Ayyangar. (2) N. Subramania Pillai.
24 Tinnevelly ..	23	20	3	..	....
25 Tiruvannamalai.	11	7	1	2	One absorbed in District Educational Council, Vellore.
26 Trichinopoly ..	22	16	2	..	Two dead and two absorbed elsewhere.
27 Vellore ..	9	6	1	..	(1) K. Natesa Mudaliyar. (2) P. V. Sudarsana Pillai.
28 Vizagapatam.	8	8	..	..	....

APPENDIX XIII.

[Vide item VIII (2) at page 1091 supra.]

PUBLIC WORKS AND LABOUR DEPARTMENT.

U.O. NOTE No. 4595-E/35-3, DATED 21ST MARCH 1936.

COMMUNICATION TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

With reference to the answer given to question No. 627 at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 30th January 1936 the following statement is laid on the table :—

Legislative Council Question No. 627 *answered on the* 30*th January* 1936.

* 627 *Q.*—Mrs. A. RUKMANI LAKSHMIPATHI : With reference to the answer to question No. 510 answered on the 8th November 1935, will the Hon. the Law Member be pleased to call for and lay on the table a list showing the amount of energy used for agricultural pumping, the number of pumps installed and the steps taken by the private licensees in the province in the matter of electrical pumping for agriculture ?

A.—The Chief Engineer for Electricity has been asked to obtain the information required. This will take some time as reports have to be called for from all licensees.

W. SCOTT BROWN,
Secretary to Government.

[Appendix

APPENDIX.

Statement showing the number of electric pumps installed for lift irrigation in licensed areas and the quantity of energy used for agricultural purposes.

Name of licensee. (1)	Amount of energy supplied for agricultural purposes, units. (2)	Number of pumps installed in the area. (3)	Capacity in h.p. or K.W. (4)	Statement of the licensees as to the steps taken to extend supply. (5)
1 West Coast Electric Supply Corporation, Limited.	..	..	..	There is hardly any scope for agricultural pumping as the agricultural operations in Malabar mainly depend on the monsoon which extends for four to five and half months in the year with average rainfall of 120 to 14 inches per annum.
2 The Kanadukathan Electric Supply Corporation, Limited.	..	..	..	Not supplying power for agricultural purposes, as the area is not fit therefor.
3 The Vizagapatam Electric Supply Corporation, Limited.	..	..	..	Under the terms of the power agreement with the Harbour Authorities the power rates are fixed up and until the licensees are in a position to reduce the power rates to enable the agriculturists to take power for pumping, there is no possibility of supplying power for agricultural purposes.
4 Nellore Power and Light, Limited ..	..	..	..	Owing to tank and channel irrigation, there is no demand for power for agricultural purposes.
5 Vellore Electric Corporation, Limited ..	8,200 in 1934–35 20,000 in 1935–36.	7	29·4 h.p.	Demonstrations.
6 Chittoor Electric Supply Corporation, Limited.	366 in 1935–36.	2	5·8 h.p.	As a result of canvassing, five people have promised to take power for agricultural pumping early in April 1936.
7 Negapatam Electric Supply Corporation, Limited.	..	..	..	The town is in deltaic area.
8 Guntur Power and Light, Limited ..	..	..	..	The licensees are carrying on demonstrations of electric pumping for irrigation of garden lands. They are also trying to do their best to educate the ryot about the uses of electricity in agriculture and to make him electrically-minded.
9 Tiruvottiyur	770 units in 1934-35. 6,793 units from 1st April 1935 to 1st January 1936.	4	23·25 h.p. ..	Erects readily extension lines to places, as near as possible, where pumping motors are actually situated, thus reducing the initial cost to the consumer, and gives all technical advice and help for installing pumps.
10 Devakottah Sri Meenakshi Electric Supply Corporation, Limited.	22,421·75 ..	59	102·2 h.p. ..	All these pumps are used both for domestic and agricultural purposes. Pure agricultural load does not exist in the area.
11 Nattarasankottai Electric Supply Corporation, Limited.	200 units per month.	5	9·85 h.p. ..	Water is pumped for garden purposes only. Owing to dryness of soil and scarcity of water, the locality does not assure the licensees of any purely agricultural load on a substantial scale.
12 The East Tanjore Electric Supply Corporation, Limited.	100 units per month.	1	3·75 h.p. ..	Being a deltaic tract appreciable pumping load does not exist. The steps taken to extend supply are (1) reduction of the minimum to Rs. 12 per K.W. of connected load per annum, and (2) a return of 10 per cent is expected on the capital outlay on extension. The licensees are negotiating with mirasidars who are cultivating sugarcane to use electrical energy for crushing sugarcane.

13	The Trichinopoly-Srirangam Electric Supply Corporation, Limited.	15,000 per annum.	18	43 h.p.	.. Monthly minimum reduced to Rs. 2 per K.W. of connected load. Distribution lines are constructed if the anticipated revenue works out to 10 per cent on the capital outlay.
14	Madura	..	..	..	No agricultural load within the area.
15	South Arcot Electricity Distributing Company, Limited.	82,850 from April to December.	10	48 h.p.	.. Licensees are connecting up newly seven more pumps of 5 h.p. each. The total connected h.p. is expected to be 83 by the end of February 1936. They anticipate some more pumps to come in. They are taking all possible steps to educate the agriculturists on the advantages of having electric pumps. Prospective consumers are taken by the licensees' staff to places where pumps are installed and working. For the present, the cost of the line is borne by them and the ryots are charged only the connexion charges.
16	Palghat Electric Corporation, Limited ..	..	..	..	As the area of supply covers only the municipal limits there is no scope for agricultural improvements. Owing to plenty of water during monsoon months and dearth during other months the need for pumping sets has never been felt. The Managing Director has however installed a demonstration pumping set of 2·4 h.p.
17	Sembiam	..	..	..	As the fields are fed by tanks, agriculturists are not forthcoming to take energy for pumping.
18	Hospet	..	..	..	No application received from agriculturists.
19	Coonoor	..	..	..	Being a hill station there is no scope for such purposes. A ½ h.p. pump is installed for a small flower garden
20	Mangalore Electric Supply Company, Limited.	..	..	..	The supply area being confined to municipal limits there is little or no field for agricultural pumping on a large scale.
21	Salem-Erode Electricity Distribution Company, Limited.	7,513 units in 6 months, from July to December 1935.	8	36·5 h.p.	.. The licensees propose to run a high tension line some four miles long to Ayodyapatnam for distribution of power for agricultural purposes.
22	Tinnevelly-Tuticorin	..	..	..	Negotiations are being carried on in the Pettai area but so far this has not come to fruition.
23	Rajahmundry	..	..	..	No scope for agricultural pumping in the area of supply.
24	Bellary	..	..	..	Do.
25	Bezwada	..	..	..	No scope for agricultural pumping in the area of supply, the agricultural area being too far away from the area of electric supply.
26	Hindupur	..	..	..	No demand from the ryots.
27	Tirumalai-Tirupati	..	..	..	Owing to backwardness of the locality no headway could be made in this direction.
28	Masulipatam	..	..	..	No agricultural load available in the area of supply or its vicinity.
29	The Reliance Electric Supply Corporation, Okkur.	..	..	..	As supply is given only during nights there is no agricultural load. The licensees are however canvassing for the same and giving the consumers necessary help.
30	Kurnool	..	..	..	No agricultural load in the area.
31	Cocanada	..	..	..	No agricultural load in the area and no possibility of selling any.
32	Cochin	..	..	..	No agricultural enterprise in the area and so no agricultural load.
33	Ootacamund	6,363 units for 1935.	5	23 h.p.	There is not much necessity for agricultural pumping due to adequate water being available.
34	Conjeeveram	..	..	..	No agricultural load in the area of supply.
35	Tanjore	544 units per month (average).	1	12·5 h.p.	No demand.
36	Proddatur	..	..	..	No service for agricultural pumping has yet been given. Enquiries are coming forward now.
37	Karaikudi	..	..	..	Being a non-agricultural area, there is no scope for agricultural pumping.